The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1887.

The Week.

THE political revolution which was accomplished in Rhode Island on Wednesday week has, indeed, a national significance, but not in the sense which the Republican managers and newspapers insisted upon in the campaign that preceded the election. By itself the real question involved in the contest was as purely local as it could possibly be. It was simply whether or not the honest people of the State would consent to be governed longer by a corrupt political Machine with a defaulter for its Boss. What did professedly respectable Republican leaders in the party do? Some of them kept quiet, and refused to take any part in the campaign. Not so Senator Aldrich. He took the field in person, and called to his aid from outside the State Henry Cabot Lodge of Boston, the Boston *Journal*, and the New York *Tribune*. Together they began a tremendous clatter about the national issues at stake in the contest. Not a word of defence could they offer for the Machine or its boss, but they were all sure that the movement for his overthrow was a free-trade conspiracy, and that if it succeeded, both the Republican party and the protective system were doomed. On the issues thus presented by the Republicans, the State has gone Democratic for the first time in a quarter of a century. It has elected a Democratic Governor and nearly an entire State ticket by clear majorities over all. The Republican pluralities for Governor of 6,334 in 1884, 3,989 in 1885, and 4,396 in 1886, now give place to a Democratic majority of 973. All the Democratic candidates have handsome pluralities, and the Democrats in the Legislature have a clear majority of nine on joint ballot. Last year the Republicans had 80 majority in the Legislature. The national significance of a revolution like this is unmistakable. It must be evident to the Republicans everywhere that the country has swung into a new epoch.

The vote for State officers in Michigan shows that it must be considered a close State in 1888. The Republicans had clearly the stronger judicial ticket, and the Democrats no longer had the support of the Greenbackers in a fusion, as had been the case for several years previously. Nevertheless, the plurality of the Republican ticket over the Democratic does not much exceed the 7,500 of last fall over the fusion ticket, and it looks as though the combined Democratic and Greenback vote this spring would exceed the Republican. This is a very different state of things from 1881, when these three parties last ran separate tickets, and the Republicans had nearly 55,000 plurality over the Democrats, and more than 21,000 over Democrats and Greenbackers together.

The municipal elections everywhere teach the same lesson, that the people can no longer be led around by the politicians. Cleveland, O., is naturally a Republican city by about 3,000 majority, but a Democrat has just been elected Mayor by about 3,000 majority, simply because Independent Republicans were disgusted with the Republican ring. "It was the victory of the people over the spoils-hunting politicians," says the Democratic organ, which enforces the moral for its own party in this refreshingly frank style: "The *Plain Dealer* takes occasion, therefore, to call attention to the magnificent victory of the Democrats of Cleveland, and to the contrast between the condition of the party here and in Cincinnati and Chicago, where evil counsels on the part of Democratic leaders and Democratic newspapers have brought the party to utter demoralization and wreck." Contrast this with the attitude of the organ of the defeated Republicans, the *Leader*. On the morning after the nomination of the Democratic candidate it said: "The nomination of Mr. Babcock was due to impulses and influences that, on a smaller scale, correspond to those which resulted in the nomination of Grover Cleveland for President," and warned all good Republicans to be on their guard against this insidious attempt of the Democracy "to introduce Mugwumpery into Cleveland." Then, after its own party had met the Democratic choice of a leading business man, never before a candidate for office, as a standard-bearer, by putting forward a hack politician of the baser sort, it endeavored to avert the foreseen result by dilating on the danger of allowing a party nomination, regularly obtained, to fail of full party suppport. The Republican loss of about 6,000 votes on election day must have opened the *Leader's* eyes to the fact that those "impulses and influences" of 1884 have suffered no lessening of efficiency, whether in nominating or in electing.

The New York *Tribune's* "special" from Cleveland, attributing Republican defeat to the alliance of the liquor element with the Democracy on account of a Republican city government having kept the saloons closed on Sunday, is in good keeping with what appears to be the settled policy of the *Tribune* just now, to explain all Republican disasters as due to the hostility of the rum power, but is particularly ludicrous in the case in hand. It was the Democratic Police Judge who first held that the city ordinance allowing the saloons to open after two o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday was invalid, and who began the work of fining and imprisoning the angry saloonists for violating the State law made operative by his decision. And it was a Republican Council that made haste, upon the demand of the liquor men, to pass an ordinance which should stand, and which, had it not come to grief in the Board of Aldermen, would have made lawful again the opening of saloons on Sunday.

On the morning of election day the Milwaukee *Sentinel*, which is strongly Republican in national politics, made an earnest appeal for the permanent establishment of the principle of non-partisanship in local elections, upon which the better class of men in both parties went that day to the polls, and, as the result proved, defeated the Socialist movement. The recent combination of Republicans and Democrats in Milwaukee was not non-partisan in the sense that candidates were selected solely with reference to fitness, for the *Sentinel* says that, "in order to satisfy partisans, pronounced Republicans and Democrats have been selected as candidates largely because rather than in spite of their partisan strength." At the same time such a union must needs show that men of both parties have the common aim of good government and the advancement of the best interests of the city, and give men an occasion to form a juster estimate of one another, and the *Sentinel* urges that the possible advantage of this combination should not be lost.

The result in East St. Louis shows that the people who are for law and order can always carry the day if they make up their minds to take the necessary trouble. At the time of the Missouri Pacific troubles last spring it seemed as though this suburb of St. Louis were a place given over beyond hope to the worst elements of the community, and as though the political gang which had long controlled it, could not be dislodged because there was not a sufficient reserve of character and independence among the voters. But the respectable men of both parties made up a citizens' ticket this spring, and it "swept everything before it."

The municipal election in Jacksonville, Fla., last week was another victory for non-partisanship, and showed that Mugwumpism is growing in the South as well as in the West. The ring which controlled the Democratic party having put forward a bad ticket, a citizens' movement was organized, and, with the efficient backing of the *Times-Union*, it was carried to success. The Mayor-elect, in response to a serenade, delivered a speech which shows that no mistake was made in selecting him as the leader. Among other things he said was this noteworthy declaration: "I shall know no one on account of his color and I shall make no distinctions. The colored man can get justice from me as well as the white. Whenever he deserves it I shall do him justice. Why? Because they have rallied around us in this fight and saved us from a government not of the people, but of a clique. They have rallied around the standard of good government with all the balance of the good citizens and assisted in this fight. Had it not been thus, the opposition would have overridden us and driven us from the field. But you all stayed by us, and Jacksonville will feel the effect of it." Moreover, he began living up to his declaration at once, as this striking statement from the *Times-Union* shows: "H. H. Baker and Moses Taylor, two worthy colored men, who were among those of their race in the party who serenaded Mayor Burbridge last evening, called at the *Times-Union* office as a committee appointed to acknowledge appreciation of the courtesy of Mayor Burbridge in in-

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cluding the colored men present in his invitation to the serenaders to enter his house and partake of refreshments. It was, they said, an incident which had never before occurred in their recollection, and they were very much pleased."

President Cleveland's letter to Mr. George Steele, the President of the American Fisheries Union, strongly confirms the impression that the aim of that organization has been to make just enough disturbance to secure for themselves a monopoly of the fish market in the United States, but not enough to interrupt the ordinary commercial relations between the two countries. The public will give just as much attention to the fisheries dispute as they are compelled to by their pecuniary interests, and no more. Each man is absorbed in his own private affairs, and so long as these are not molested by any action of the Government, the fisheries are a matter of no practical concern to him. They do not touch his conscience, like the liquor question or the slavery question. So he leaves the subject to the men at Washington whom he has hired to look after it. But if, as part and parcel of the fishery dispute, other business is thrown into confusion, if sales of goods are interrupted and purchases made more costly, there will be a general reckoning which cannot be advantageous to those who caused the Washington Treaty to be abrogated, thus needlessly plunging us into hot water again.

President Cleveland replies to Mr. Steele that he cannot undertake to restrict the operation of the retaliation act (if it becomes necessary to put it in force) to "prohibiting Canadian fish from entry into the ports of the United States," as Mr. Steele had kindly suggested. This, the President says, would be taking a low view of the importance of the question and of the dignity of the United States. It might be advisable, although the President does not suggest this, to prohibit the entry into our ports of any fish caught by Canadian fishermen serving in American vessels, in which case the Gloucester fleet would be shorn of two-thirds of its effective strength. It may be, and very likely will be, expedient to prohibit American vessels from going into Canadian ports for any purpose whatever, except for shelter in stress of weather. To limit the operation of the act to a new measure of "protection" to a particular trade would be putting upon the consumers of fish the entire burden and cost of the difficulty. It is gratifying to know that President Cleveland does not take so low a view of his public duties, and that he will not assent in advance to such an act of injustice. Indeed, his letter may be construed as a promise that when he does act he will contrive that the burden and cost shall be fairly distributed, and that no class or section shall get the advantage of any other class or section by reason of what is at best a serious public misfortune.

Judge Deady, of the United States District Court for Oregon, has given the first judicial decision under the Inter-State Commerce Law, holding that it is not a violation of the law for the Oregon and California Railroad, a corporation wholly within one State, to carry goods to Portland destined to San Francisco by a steamship line not under its control, at a less rate than is charged for carrying, the same distance or a shorter distance, the same goods not destined for shipment to points beyond on the steamship line. The decision is technically correct, and therefore legally correct. Any other decision would have been incorrect and illegal. The law does not include steamship lines or water carriage not controlled by, or under the same management with, the railway company concerned. It does not include, but expressly excludes, railways wholly within the limits of a single State. Yet the case at bar is one of the class of cases intended to be reached by the legislation in question. If the steamship line had happened to be under the same ownership and control as the Oregon and California R. R.—as in fact it was a few years ago—the law would have been operative upon both, and the Judge would have been compelled to decide the case differently. If the goods had been shipped to the same destination from some point on the roads of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company, the decision would have been different, because this company does own and control the steamship line. But the latter company could also avoid the law by sending the goods from Portland to San Francisco by the Pacific Coast Steamship Line. So it appears that for transporting goods from any interior point in Oregon to San Francisco the law may be operative or not in the discretion of the railway managers, and that their discretion is legal and unimpeachable. This is an anomaly, but is not so impressive or far-reaching as that which the Commissioners have signalized by suspending the operation of the law for a period of ninety days on the Southern roads. This they have the right to do, undoubtedly. The right to suspend it on a particular road or in a particular case must include the right to suspend it in gross. The operation of the law has been suspended also on the Detroit, Grand Haven and Milwaukee Road for ninety days, and this action, while apparently justifiable, has given rise to much bickering at Chicago and Toledo.

Nearly all the Western papers are printing articles, both editorial and descriptive, concerning the "boom" in real estate. The St. Louis *Globe Democrat* makes it a feature of journalism, publishing in a single number, from twenty-two different points, telegrams and letters giving account of sales of lots, new buildings under construction, and the rapid accumulation of wealth by speculators in real estate. The excitement rages in the small towns as well as the large. Mount Carmel, Ill., Chanute and Paola, Kan., Booneville and Clinton, Mo., Las Vegas, N. M., and a multitude of places that have been seldom heard of a hundred miles from their respective court-houses, are booming in grand chorus, while the uproar at Little Rock, Ark., Wichita, Kan., and Fort Worth, Tex., is really deafening. The scenes in 'Change Alley at the time of the South Sea bubble, or in the Rue Quincampoix when John Law was the virtual sovereign of France, appear to be distributed and reënacted over a space of about 1,000 miles square in the West and South. Take Little Rock, for example. The *Gazette* of that place publishes a daily article on the "Boom," surmounted by thirteen splendid head lines. Without going into the body of the article—everybody being too busy to read the details—it can be learned that prices are firmer each day than they were the day before, that the number of recorded transfers was larger that day than it had ever been before; that A. B. had sold to C. D. for $5,000 what he had paid only $2,500 for a few days ago, and that the profit was made before any papers had passed; that the city authorities have made a contract for paving two miles of streets, and that Jay Gould has sold the Pine Bluff Railroad out of his left-hand pocket into his right-hand pocket, and has in contemplation many other trades of great prospective value to Little Rock.

It will occur to any man of mature years that he has heard this tale before, and perhaps more than once. The great real-estate boom of 1834-5-6, preceding the crash of 1837, will be recalled by a few. The speculations of 1854-5-6, prior to the collapse of 1857, are remembered by a greater number. The great advance in real estate that preceded the crisis of 1873 is too fresh to need more than a brief mention. The present boom is really the first of any magnitude that has affected real estate over a wide area since 1873. It is an observed fact that real estate is, of all kinds of property, the last to feel the impulse of what are called "good times," and also the last to succumb to the pressure of a commercial crisis. Other kinds of property must be bought and sold from day to day, whatever the prices may be. Real estate, being subject to no deterioration by the lapse of time, may be held as long as the owner can pay the taxes and the interest on mortgage if it is thus encumbered. Consequently there may be a business boom and a business reaction not felt by real estate in any way. Such a boom and reaction occurred in the period of 1879–1882, during which the real-estate market all over the country was remarkably quiescent, the only noticeable boom being in the Province of Manitoba. But a business revival cannot be of long duration without affecting land values; and when new land is really wanted for business uses, and when productive industry can afford to pay considerably higher prices for its use, the speculative fever is sure to rise as it appears to have risen now in the West and South. There is nothing to be said of the present "boom" except that some people will make money out of it while the fever continues, and others will lose when the reaction comes.

Mr. Powderly of the Knights of Labor, at a meeting in Philadelphia last Thursday, gave in his adhesion to the proposition of the Declaration of Independence that "all men were created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights." He says this is correct and "the truth, instead of being a living lie as some men would have the people believe." Now, the Declaration of Independence was undoubtedly intended to cover the case of non-union as well as of union men—that is, of

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"scabs" as well as members. It meant that every man was entitled to enjoy life and liberty and pursue happiness in his own way, and not in the way of some other man, or of some assembly. We should like, therefore, to hear from the gentle Powderly what he thinks of the practice of trying to ruin people by boycotting them, and by hunting them out of employment, from shop to shop, to say nothing of hitting them with clubs and bricks, because they do not choose to join unions or become Knights. At the meeting in question he flaunted the American flag a good deal, and said that he and his friends were there as Americans; but we must remind him that the founders of the Government no more intended the flag to float over a pirate ship or a robber's cave than over an organization like the District Assembly 49, devoted largely to the persecution of the poor and helpless.

Gov. Green of New Jersey has learned that eternal vigilance is the price of demagogy as well as of liberty. He distinguished himself in his first message by talking greater nonsense on the Labor question than any other official in the country, save our own Gov. Hill, has ever indulged in. This presumably made him "solid" with the Labor vote. He forgot himself, however, a few days ago, and declined to preside over a meeting which the Irish citizens of Trenton called to protest against the new Coercion Bill in Parliament. When he heard that this refusal had angered the Irish voters, he sent a letter withdrawing it and consenting to preside. The effect of this transparent move to regain lost ground made the Irish voters more indignant than ever, and they threatened to get even with him by voting against the Governor's party in the municipal election. This election occurred on Monday, and the threat was so well carried out that the Republcan candidate for Mayor was elected, for the first time in six years. Of course the Democrats put all the blame upon the Governor.

Senator Sherman sent a letter to the dinner of the Philadelphia Young Republicans on Monday which gave promise in its opening paragraph of presenting some progressive ideas, for, after the usual "pointing with pride" to its past, he said that "the work of the Republican party is but fairly begun." The succeeding paragraphs, however, do not justify the expectations aroused. There is the conventional dose of meaningless "taffy" for the workingman, but the only two practical suggestions are that "every measure should be supported that will tend to foster, defend, and protect home industries" (which means the same thing as the plea in his Nashville speech for "the tariff laws as they now exist"), and that "the education of the rising generation, without respect to race, color, or previous condition, ought to be a constant object of desire," which, interpreted by the same Nashville speech, means that the Federal Government shall distribute educational subsidies among the States. This kind of talk may suit "young Republicans" of the Pennsylvania stamp, but in the doubtful States, like New York and Connecticut, nothing could do more to turn independent voters, young or old, against the party next year than its adoption of such a platform.

The *Tribune* of Monday contained a very circumstantial and detailed account of a sad state of things on board the cruiser *Atlanta*, now lying at the Brooklyn Navy-yard. It appeared that nearly everything on board which makes her a fighting ship was botched or out of order, and incapable of being set to rights. There was only one grain of truth in the story, and that was that copper rivets had been found not strong enough to fasten the gun-carriages to the deck. The rest was simply old fashioned journalistic lying. We knew of course that the story would appear very soon in that hardened old sinner, the Boston *Journal*, with some additions and improvements, and, sure enough, here it is in Monday's issue of that paper. One of the most comic features in it is the corroboration supplied by "an old officer." This is what the fictitious old scoundrel is made to say:

"It all comes of trying to make line officers do mechanical work, which they know nothing about. They have made a list of this business, and I'll bet a brown-stone front against a yard of calico that if the *Atlanta* is successful in her run up the Sound next week, it will be two months before her guns will be tested."

If he got his due, he would be put in imaginary irons, on imaginary bread and water, and kept there till he put up the imaginary brown-stone front which he bet against the yard of calico. The "old officer," however, is nearly as notorious a liar as the "country clergyman" and "the prominent politician." The minute he opens his journalistic mouth people prepare for "a whopper."

Mr. Vanderbilt's gift of Rosa Bonheur's "Horse Fair" to the Metropolitan Museum, followed so soon by Miss Wolfe's magnificent bequest of the whole of her collection to the same institution, together with a handsome endowment in money, seems, taken in connection with Mr. Tilden's legacy for a library, to indicate that the habit of doing something for the city is at last taking root among the owners of great fortunes. The wealth accumulated in this city since the opening of the canals sixty years ago, by men beginning their business life here, has been something enormous, but, for reasons which we shall not now examine, the city has profited by it but little. Hardly any of it, until very recently, has gone to the local university—Columbia College. We believe this College received its first gift or bequest, and that a small one, within the last ten years. The late Mr. Astor founded a library, which has become a fine one, but it is distinctly a reference or scholars' library. The late Mr. Lenox did the same thing, but his library is still more cloistered than Mr. Astor's. The Metropolitan Museum was started twenty years ago, but in a small way, and has struggled along with difficulty, and is to this hour, considered as the one public art collection of a wealthy metropolis with over a million of population, a melancholy spectacle. The Natural History Museum also owes the most of what it is to private munificence; but what is it to what it ought to be? There has probably never been a fortune made here from which as much was expected, and justly expected, as from that of the late A. T. Stewart. It was literally built up by the plain people of New York, the wives and daughters of men living by wages and salaries. Mr. Stewart, we believe, often expressed his sense of the obligation he was under to this class, and his intention of marking it in some substantial way after his death. But his great fortune has disappeared without leaving, as far as the city is concerned, "a wrack behind." Let us hope that we are now witnessing the dawning of a better day, that the recent splendid examples will be rapidly followed, and that we shall soon be famous for something besides municipal jobbery—for it is a most melancholy fact that New York is better known all over the civilized world for boodle Aldermen and municipal rings than for anything else.

"Consistency" sends us an inquiry which he evidently considers a "corker," namely:

"How is it that the Northern press universally condemned secession, and could hardly find terms strong enough in which to denounce it, now are so generally denouncing the English Government for maintaining the laws of the land in Ireland, and even our Legislature are censuring England for her endeavors to compel obedience to law? Would the United States, the State of New York, submit to anti-rent?"

The reason is, "Consistency," in part that "the laws of the land in Ireland" are considered bad laws, and in part that, whether bad or good, the people who live under them have not only not made them, but have had no part in making them. The thing to do with bad laws is not to enforce, but to repeal or amend them. If Southern laws of the land had been made at the North by Northerners, the Southern rebellion would have had a great deal more sympathy than it had. Moreover, the State of New York did "submit to anti-rent." It tried hard for ten years to get the tenants of the Van Rensselaers and Livingstons to pay their rents, but finally gave it up and left these landlords to settle with their tenants as best they could, which they did by selling their property for whatever the tenants chose to pay. The chances appear to be now that things will run pretty much the same course in Ireland.

Mr. James Bryce, speaking against the Coercion Bill the other day in the House of Commons, remarked that no one who knew nothing of the matter except what he learned from the speeches of the ministers, would suppose for a moment that this was not the first time that a coercion bill had been tried, or that it was actually the eighty-seventh experiment of the kind. Not the slightest allusion was made to the former ones. Another singular feature in the affair is that some of the worst denouncers of coercion in the past, including poor old Mr. Bright, are now backing the Tories up in this latest attempt. Lord Randolph Churchill is among the number, he who only so long ago as February said in a speech:

"I should say that Ireland appears to me at the present moment like a high-spirited and mettlesome horse, which has been extremely badly ridden for some time. There is a certain school of professors of political education—principally represented by the *Times* newspaper—who apparently imagine that the way to ride a horse of that kind is to be continually jobbing it in the mouth, hitting it over the head with the whip, and digging it in the side with the spur; and that school persist in a passionate admiration of this method, although they have seen rider after rider laid on his back in the ditch."

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, April 6, to TUESDAY, April 12, 1887, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE American Fisheries Union of Massachusetts recently informed President Cleveland that in their opinion the retaliatory power given him by Congress against Canada would be sufficiently used, if occasion should arise to use it at all, by confining it to the closing of the United States markets to Canadian fish. In reply to this the President wrote, April 7, taking a broader view: "The retaliation contemplated is to be enforced, not to protect solely any particular interest, however meritorious or valuable, but to maintain the national honor, and thus protect all our people." "This measure once resorted to, its effectiveness and value may well depend upon the thoroughness and extent of its application." "This Government and the people of the United States must act as a unit—all intent upon attaining the best result of retaliation upon the basis of maintenance of national honor and duty." "I shall be unflinchingly guided by a sense of what the self-respect and dignity of the nation demand."

The Toronto *Globe* concludes its comment on the President's letter thus: "This letter, although studiously moderate in tone, intimates plainly what may follow. The position is, to say the least, exceedingly serious."

A Canadian cruiser recently chased a vessel belonging to the United States fishermen out of the three-mile limit, and fired a blank shot at her, off Beaver Harbor.

The President has appointed Benton J. Hall of Iowa to be Commissioner of Patents, vice M. V. Montgomery, resigned; Marshall Park of Norfolk, Va., to be Supervising Inspector of Steam Vessels for the Third District; Eugene Semple of Washington Territory to be Governor of the Territory, and S. O. Shannon of Cheyenne to be Secretary of Wyoming Territory; and Robert E. Pattison of Pennsylvania, E. Ellery Anderson of New York, and David L. Littler of Illinois to be Commissioners to investigate the affairs of the Pacific railroads which have received land grants from the Government, as provided by an act of the last Congress.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission on April 6 issued an order, on application of the Southern Railway and Steamship Association, suspending the enforcement on these roads of the long and short-haul clause of the law for ninety days, subject to modification or revocation. The Commission will sit at Atlanta, Ga., on April 26, at Mobile April 29, at New Orleans on May 2, and at Memphis on May 4, for the consideration of the competition between the water and rail routes. The same period of suspension of the above clause of the law has been allowed to certain roads in the Northwest.

Judge Deady, in the United States Circuit Court of Oregon, rendered an important decision April 9, bearing on the Inter-State Commerce Law. After explaining that the act "does not include or apply to all carriers engaged in inter-State commerce, but only such as use a railway or a railway and water craft under common control or management for a continuous carriage or shipment of property from one State to another," he held that it does not "apply to the carriage of property by rail wholly within the State, although shipped from or destined to a place without the State, so that such place is not in a foreign country." The case concerned the transportation of goods by the Oregon and California Railroad (which lies wholly within Oregon) destined for San Francisco. Besides this decision, which touches the main principle of the new law, there have been two threats made of litigation of a nature that was hardly anticipated. On April 8 a colored man who had bought a first-class ticket was ejected from a first-class car, and subsequently from the train on the Western and Atlanta Railroad, which extends from Chattanooga, Tenn., to Atlanta, Ga. It is reported that suit will be brought for damages under the anti-discrimination provision of the law. The managers of the Chicago and Alton Railroad have threatened to sue the Pennsylvania Railroad Company because the agent of the latter at Logansport, Ind., in a quarrel that has been maintained between Eastern and Western roads about the allowance of commissions on the sale of through-tickets, refused to sell through-tickets over the Chicago and Alton Road, but sold them over a competing line.

In Rhode Island, Democratic State officers and a Democratic majority in the Legislature have been elected. The election law in that State requires that unless a candidate receive a majority over all competitors at the polls, the election shall be decided by the Legislature. All the Democratic candidates for State offices received a plurality, but the candidates for Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State did not receive a majority. The result is as follows: John W. Davis, Governor, 973 majority; Z. O. Slocum, Attorney-General, 2,518 majority; J. G. Perry, General Treasurer, 2,609 majority; Samuel R. Honey, Lieutenant-Governor, and E. D. McGuiness, Secretary of State, who received pluralities, will be elected by the Legislature. The Senate contains 19 Republicans and 15 Democrats, and the House 28 Republicans and 41 Democrats. The majority against a woman-suffrage amendment to the Constitution was 15,123.

The Prohibitionists in Michigan have made charges of fraud at the recent election on the prohibitory amendment. In some of the precincts in Detroit a suspiciously small prohibition vote was returned, and in the new county of Gogebic 2,200 majority against the amendment was returned, although only 1,500 votes in all were cast at the last preceding election in Ontonagon County, out of a part of which Gogebic County has since been formed. It is asserted that men were imported from Wisconsin who voted against the amendment.

Senator Reagan of Texas has declared for prohibition, in opposition to all the other prominent Democrats in Texas, where there is now an exciting campaign, preparatory to the forthcoming submission of a prohibitory amendment to the popular vote.

Gov. Hill of New York on April 12 vetoed the High-License Bill, which fixed the fee to sell spirituous liquors at $1,000 and wine and beer at $100 in this city and Brooklyn. On the same day the Pennsylvania House of Representatives passed a High-License Bill which provides that the license in cities of the first, second, and third class shall be $500, in all other cities $300, in boroughs $150, and in townships $75.

The death penalty has never been prescribed by the law of Michigan. For a time murderers were condemned to solitary confinement, which made most of them hopelessly demented. Subsequently they were imprisoned, but not in solitude. The conclusion seems now to have been reached that these methods have failed, for the lower house of the Legislature, on April 9, passed a bill prescribing capital punishment, by three votes more than the requisite majority.

At a general conference of the Mormon Church at Provo, Utah, April 8, an epistle was read from President Taylor and his advisers, Cannon and Smith, in which Congress, for its legislation against polygamy, is thus spoken of: "In the haste and zeal of madness to destroy Mormonism, all settled principles of jurisprudence are disregarded and evil precedents are established. There is danger that the precedent now being made will in the not distant future be inconceivably fruitful of evil to the people of this republic." The epistle is chiefly remarkable for its silence on the subject of polygamy, to which no allusion whatever was made.

Simultaneously at Kirkland, O., in the temple built by Joseph Smith before the Mormons went to Utah, a conference of non-polygamous Mormons, known as Josephites, was held. They are said to number 20,000. Joseph Smith, a son of the first leader of the sect, made an address wherein he severely condemned polygamy.

The Cherokee Female Seminary near Talequah, I. T., was burned on April 10, and the loss was $250,000. The seminary was intended to accommodate 200 girls.

The old Slave Market, the ancient Cathedral, the Edwards Hotel, the Court-house, and the St. Augustine Hotel at St. Augustine, Fla., were burned April 12. The Cathedral was built in 1793, and was in use for purposes of worship up to the time of its destruction.

A prairie fire from two and a half to seven miles wide swept through Graham and Norton Counties, Kansas, on April 10 and the following days, which burned many cattle and horses and as many as fifteen people. On April 9 a prairie fire threatened to burn the town of Watertown, Dak. The wind was so strong that it blew freight cars from a station at great speed along the track. Another prairie fire two days later near Sioux Falls burned property to the value, it is estimated, of $100,000.

Two distinct shocks of earthquake were felt at Burlington, Vt., April 10. The last was so heavy that many people supposed a great explosion had occurred near by. Doors and windows rattled, and the tops of buildings swayed.

A large proportion of the conductors and brakemen of the Panhandle Railroad, who run between Pittsburgh and Columbus, were arrested April 11 for a series of thefts of goods from the cars. For three years they had stolen merchandise of many sorts, to the value of not less than $500,000. It was a large conspiracy, and places for the disposition of stolen goods had been established in Pittsburgh.

During the first quarter of 1887 1,040 miles of new main railway track were laid on forty-nine different lines in twenty-five of the States and Territories. This is a larger total than has been recorded for any previous year up to the same date, except 1882, when the construction for the entire year reached 11,568 miles.

Mr. S. B. Chittenden of Brooklyn has given Yale College $100,000 for the erection of a new library. The building will be begun at once on a site between the art school and the present library. Mr. George I. Seney of this city has presented a small but valuable collection of pictures to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The Museum, by the will of the late Miss Catherine L. Wolfe, has received the munificent gift of her whole collection, which is one of the best and largest in this city. Besides this, "in order to provide for the better preservation of said paintings and drawings and the future increase of said collection," the will runs, "I give and bequeath to the executors the sum of $200,000 upon trust."

John Wanamaker, the Philadelphia merchant, will introduce the coöperative system into his business by making division of his profits among his employees in addition to their salaries. He estimates that the sum so divided will amount to $100,000 a year.

The three men recently convicted of boycotting the *Courier and Journal* Publishing Company at New Haven were each fined $50 and costs April 12.

A number of eminent physicians in this city have volunteered their professional services for a proposed hospital for the treatment of diphtheria. There is now no such hospital in the city, and the cases of the disease have increased 60 per cent. within two years.

The verdict in the Andover Theological Seminary trials for heresy has been deferred because time is needed for printing the proceedings, which will fill a large volume.

Mr. Edward Burgess is designing an eighty-six feet sloop yacht for Gen. C. J. Paine, owner

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of the *Mayflower*, for the purpose of defending the *America's* cup in the race next fall against the Scotch cutter *Thistle*.

The will of the late Francis Palms of Detroit has been declared invalid, wherein he directed that his fortune of $7,000,000 be kept in trust by his children for their children until the last that may be born to them shall have come of age. "If this will were to be sustained and enforced," said the lower State Court, "a vast estate would be tied up and made inalienable for two lives and an indefinite number of minorities, and the absolute power of alienation would be suspended, and this is precisely what the statute has been so careful to forbid"; or, in popular phrase, the law forbids the controlling of fortunes from the grave from generation to generation.

A bronze equestrian statue of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston of the army of the Confederate States was unveiled at New Orleans on April 6, which was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the battle of Shiloh, where he fell. An address was delivered by Jefferson Davis.

The young woman was buried at Rahway, N. J., April 10, who fifteen days previously had been found murdered. The facts that she was not identified and that her murderer has not been apprehended, make the case one of the most mysterious in this time of wide and quick publicity of all crimes and of good detective work.

Col. D. Wyatt Aiken, for a long period Representative in Congress from the Third District of South Carolina, died April 6. Commodore Charles Green, United States Navy, retired, died in Providence April 7, in his seventy-fourth year. He entered the naval service in 1826, and served continuously until he was retired in 1867. During the civil war, while commanding the *Jamestown* on blockade duty, he captured six prizes and destroyed the bark *Alvarado* under the guns at the fort at Fernandina. John T. Raymond, the well-known comedian, whose *Colonel Sellers* was a classical performance, died of heart disease at Evansville, Ind., April 10. He was born at Buffalo April 5, 1836. Other Americans of note who have died within a week were Samuel Simpson, an uncle of Gen. Grant, for whom he was named; Judge William Strong of Oregon, who was appointed to the Territorial bench by President Fillmore; Gen. James J. Pratt, a politician and prominent citizen of Connecticut; and Eben S. Stearns, President of the Tennessee Normal College and Chancellor of the University of the South.

Lieut. C. V. Morris, a retired officer of the United States Navy, and a grandson of Robert Morris, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, died at Sackett's Harbor, April 11, aged eighty-five years. He entered the navy in 1825, and was in active service during the late war.

Bishop Alfred Lee of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Delaware died at Wilmington April 12, aged eighty years. He was consecrated Bishop of Delaware in 1841, and was the senior bishop of his church in the United States.

FOREIGN.

By way of preparation for the great Easter Monday Hyde Park meeting to protest against coercion, Mr. Gladstone on April 9 wrote a letter to the miners in the north of Great Britain in which he insisted on a large attendance, and said: "In my opinion the rejection of the bill is even more needed by England than by Ireland. For Ireland it is a question of suffering, and she knows how to suffer. For England it is a question of shame and dishonor, and to cast away shame and dishonor is the first business of a great nation."

The crowd which attended the Hyde Park meeting April 11 was estimated to number 150,000 persons. It required an hour and a half for the procession to file into the Park. There were fourteen platforms, from which speeches were made simultaneously. Among the speakers were Lord Mayor Sullivan of Dublin, Messrs. Conybeare and Redmond, members of Parliament, and Michael Davitt. "Don't let the English people believe," said Mr. Sullivan, "those who say the Irish are mortal, implacable enemies of England. That is a falsehood worthy of the bottomless pit. Let there be an end of oppression and injustice and there will be an end of hatred." At the sound of a bugle a resolution condemning the Crimes Bill was put simultaneously at all the platforms, and was carried amid a prolonged roar of cheers. Mrs. Gladstone looked on the procession from a window and was loudly cheered. The *Daily News* (Liberal) said of the meeting: "The demonstration shows that the bulk of the working population of London have returned to hearty coöperation with the Liberal party, determined to do justice to Ireland. That is the sufficient and ennobling reason for which they gave up their holiday. They refused to take their ease while iniquitous oppression was being done in their name."

Col. King-Harman, Conservative member of Parliament from the Isle of Thanet division of Kent, has been appointed Under Parliamentary Secretary for Ireland—a new office.

Limerick and other Irish ports have been proclaimed under the Peace Preservation Act, prohibiting the importation of arms and ammunition. At Dunmanway, County Cork, a farmer and his wife resisted eviction for eight hours on April 9, hurling stones and other missiles at the police. The attempt to evict them was finally abandoned. A conflict occurred the next day at Belfast between a mob and a body of police, and during the fight one man was wounded.

In consequence of England's treatment of Ireland and the attitude of the Irish clergy on the Irish question, the Pope has charged Cardinal Simeoni, Prefect of the Congregation of the Propaganda, to make a thorough inquiry into the whole matter and to draft instructions for the Irish bishops.

Official notice has been given at Ottawa that during the presence of Lord Lansdowne in the Senate Chamber, at the opening of Parliament on April 14, the galleries of the Senate will be closed. It is thought that he has received threatening letters because of the trouble with the tenants on his Irish estates.

The great permanent infantry barracks at Aldershot, England, were burned April 6.

While the Czar was driving to the Gatchina station in St. Petersburg on April 6, a man and a woman were arrested on the route who carried bombs under a shawl. Another person who tried to present a petition was arrested on suspicion of being an accomplice of these two; and although no actual attempt was made to kill the Czar, the reports received at all the European capitals leave little doubt about the intention of the arrested persons. On the same day the Czar found letters on his writing-table in the Winter Palace threatening him with death.

The Czarina has so suffered from nervous depression since the attempts to kill the Czar that her health is seriously affected.

Lieut. Goreff of the Russian Army has been sentenced to eight years' hard labor in the mines of Siberia for encouraging a revolutionary movement. The Chief of Police at Odessa has organized a body of 400 volunteer detectives to watch suspects.

Four hundred and eighty officers of the Russian Army, it was reported from Odessa April 11, had arrived there to be transported to a convict colony. They are charged with being implicated in the plots against the Czar. They are not Nihilists, but are merely suspected of being in sympathy with the revolutionary party.

It has been announced that the Czar will confer on M. de Giers, the Russian Minister of War, the decoration of the Order of St. Vladimir, with a flattering imperial rescript.

The German police have confiscated many of the books and journals of the Social Democrats, and arrested many persons in Hamburg, Stettin, Königsberg, Mannheim, and other places.

Evidence accumulates of the rigor of the German rule of the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. The *Journal de Genève*, which is noted for its impartial treatment of international questions, says that honorable citizens are arrested without apparent cause, dragged through the streets like thieves, and imprisoned during the pleasure of their rulers. The bare fact of having worn or purchased articles of dress whose colors recall the French flag, or of subscribing to a disaffected paper, is considered a crime. The expulsion of Delegate Antoine from Alsace-Lorraine, the tearing up of the imperial flag by Alsatian recruits, and the imprisonment of French sympathizers have caused strong feeling.

An explosion in a nitro-glycerine factory at Freiberg, Saxony, on April 9 killed and injured thirteen persons.

Dr. Windthorst, the German Catholic leader, has informed the Pope that the Centre party will accept the Prussian Ecclesiastical Bill as a filial duty to the head of the Church.

Dr. Lenz, the African traveller, was welcomed on his return to Vienna, April 10. He reported that he was prevented from relieving Emin Bey by the insufficiency of the means at his disposal.

Jean Henri Dupin, the French dramatic author, died April 7, in his ninety-sixth year. While a clerk in a Paris bank he wrote "Le Voyage à Chambord," which proved a success, and thereafter he devoted himself to play-writing. The number of his plays is almost 200. Lieut.-Col. Sir William Owen Lanyon of the British Army died April 6, in this city, of cancer. He served with credit as a staff officer through the Zulu war and both the Sudan campaigns. For the last two years he had been travelling for his health.

The seventieth anniversary of King William of Holland's birthday, which fell on February 19 and was then observed as a holiday by the people of the Hague, was celebrated at Amsterdam on April 12 by general festivity, which was begun by the monarch entering the town in state. The city was gayly decorated and the streets spanned by splendid floral arches.

An expedition sent out by the American Consul at Tangier to break up the infamous usury system in Morocco, has caused the release of all the Moors imprisoned at Alcazar and Larache under American claims, except three who had died. The prisons in which the men were confined were very foul, and the inmates were half starved, ragged, and covered with vermin. Some of them had heavy chains fastened to their necks and legs. A notorious usurer named Tergiman, on whose claims a majority of the people were held in prison, has been arrested and carried to Tangier in irons for trial for falsely claiming to be an American protégé.

Excitement has been caused at Port-au-Prince because of a threat by the British Government to take Tortugas Island for the payment of an old claim by British subjects to the amount of $1,000,000. Fear has been entertained that if the demand were insisted on, the turbulent element in Hayti would take revenge by killing the foreign residents. The French Government has offered to mediate between Great Britain and Hayti, and has ordered a man-of-war to protect foreign residents.

A circular from the Canadian Cardinal Taschereau was read in all the Catholic churches under his jurisdiction April 10, wherein it was announced that the order from Rome forbidding Catholics in Canada to join the Knights of Labor was suspended.

Uneasiness is reported from Rio Janeiro about the health of Dom Pedro.

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WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN OPERATION.

For some years, women have exercised the right of suffrage in three of the Territories, but the subjection of the Mormon women to the priesthood has rendered the Utah experiment (now ended by the Anti-Mormon Bill passed by the last Congress) utterly valueless for instruction; while the population of Wyoming has been too small to afford any basis for generalization, and the experience of Washington Territory, recently interrupted by a judicial decision that the law of 1883 giving women the ballot is void, through some technical error, has been too brief to warrant conclusions of value to the country at large.

The Kansas Legislature a few weeks ago passed an act giving women the right to vote in municipal elections, and they exercised the right for the first time in the spring elections of last week. As Kansas is a State which has attained an age of more than a quarter of a century, and has a population as large as that of New Jersey, this trial of female suffrage is the most important and significant yet made in the country. The results must command the attention of all thoughtful people, whatever their predilections regarding this issue may be, and we summarize them as compactly as possible.

It must be explained that the word city in Kansas conveys a different meaning from the one to which Eastern people are accustomed, since a few hundred inhabitants there constitute a population large enough for the forms of a municipal government. One must, therefore, not be surprised to hear of exciting contests over Mayor and Aldermen in what hereabouts would be called villages. We first give in the briefest possible form reports from a number of smaller cities, reserving for more detailed description the larger places. We perforce use the figures of the last national census:

Blue Rapids (population 1,299).—Total vote, 357; women, 133. "A pronounced Prohibitionist elected Mayor."

Larned (1,842).—A very exciting contest, resulting in a majority of 48 for Wilson, the temperance candidate for Mayor, nearly all the women voting for him.

Chanute (1,851).—"One hundred and seventy-eight women voted, the majority of them voting a ticket headed 'Temperance Ticket.'"

Columbus (1,993)—Women registered, 189 (about one-half of the whole number); voting, 172. "R. M. Cheshire elected Mayor by 100 majority; no political issue attached to this vote. The votes of the women were divided as to the various candidates."

Hutchinson (2,116).—"Two hundred women voted, and much bad feeling was engendered by their dividing their support and espousing different factions. The ladies' candidate was defeated by 24 majority. The ladies' vote was about evenly divided, both factions of them canvassing the city in buggies."

Garnett (2,144).—"There was a spirited contest, but the Citizens' Temperance ticket, which received the unanimous support of the ladies, was elected by a large majority. Ladies canvassed from house to house and employed carriages to convey their friends to the polls. Two ladies assisted as judge and clerk of election."

Osage Mission (2,266)—Election warmly contested; fifty-nine women voted, all but two after noon. "The sudden rush was occasioned by the fear that the Labor ticket would be elected. Their exertions, however, were without avail, as the Labor candidate for Mayor was elected by 41 plurality."

McPherson (2,267).—"The city election was nonpartisan. The women cast about 200 votes. Over one-fourth of the entire number voting divided among various candidates. They ran a separate ticket, but it did not receive their full vote. The bonds for water-works and high school carried by heavy majorities, the women all voting in their favor. Female suffrage is generally regarded with favor here."

Valley Falls (2,722).—"A prominent third-party Prohibitionist was elected Mayor by votes of women."

Parsons (4,199).—"Dr. G. W. Gabriel was elected Mayor by about 550 majority. Owing to the fact that A. O. Brown was the candidate of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, this is considered a 'crushing blow' to the temperance element. One most deplorable feature of their electioneering to-day was the assailing of Mrs. Gabriel's character by some of the members of the W. C. T. U., when the fact of the matter is, beyond question, that Mrs. Gabriel is one of the most high-minded, respectable, and respected ladies in the city of Parsons, and any insinuations to the contrary are vile slanders."

Emporia (4,631).—"The election was attended with considerable excitement, which was for the greater part caused by the activity of the W. C. T. U. in behalf of their candidate for Mayor, Dr. J. J. Wright, as against N. E. Weaver, the candidate of the Citizens' ticket. Their efforts were not crowned with the most gratifying success, as out of the 542 women who registered, only 398 voted, and of these over one-fourth voted against the candidate of the W. C. T. U. Weaver was elected by a large majority."

Wichita (4,911).—"Two hundred women voted; about half of them were 'sporting' women. Three times that number registered."

Lawrence (8,510).—"The women were out in full force, voting almost their full registration. The colored women's vote of 400 was solid for the Republican ticket, thus deciding the contest. Barker (Rep.) is elected over Whitcomb (Fusionist), by 350 votes. The white women were divided on tickets."

Here are enough of small "cities," only one of them having more than 5,000 people, and half of them less than 2,500. There remain in Kansas three places which might be dignified as cities of the lowest class in the East—Atchison (15,105), Topeka (15,452), and Leavenworth (16,546). At Atchison 336 women registered, one-half colored, and about 280 voted, of whom 200 supported the Democratic candidate for Mayor. "In the Third Ward a colored preacher named Smothers ran for Councilman and drew off colored voters, generally women, enough to defeat the Republican candidate."

In Topeka, the capital of the State, the total registration was 5,494, of whom 1,406 were women, and about 1,200 of them voted. About three-fourths of them supported the Republican candidate for Mayor, and, as he was elected by only a few hundred majority, Democrats concede that the result was decided by the female vote. Some features of the election are thus described:

"The ladies who voted were in general . . . representatives of loyal Kansas womanhood. It had been predicted by the opponents of municipal suffrage that the vote of the degraded and ignorant class of women would overbalance the vote of the respectable ladies; but to-day's election in Topeka proved this not to be true, and a very large majority of the votes cast were by some of the most refined and cultured ladies of the city, and all appeared to vote intelligently and without hesitation. The great portion of the female vote was cast immediately after dinner. . . . The most of the ladies went to the polls with their ballots already prepared, and very often their ballots were scratched."

Leavenworth has more of the characteristics of a large city than any other place in the State, and the canvass there is consequently of unusual interest. There were two tickets—the People's, headed by S. F. Neely, the present Mayor; and the Fusion (Republican and Prohibitionist), headed by Thomas A. Garrigues. Mrs. Helen M. Gougar, an Indiana woman, whose reputation in her old home has, justly or unjustly, been assailed, took command of the female voters. "Particular attention was paid by her to the colored people and the Knights of Labor, and with these elements she was most successful. It is a fact that every nine out of ten colored women voted for Garrigues. They were as much under her leadership and voted her dictation as if they were a body of soldiers." As the campaign waxed warm, Mrs. Gougar grew rather reckless in her language, and made a remark which is said by a reporter to have been that "the best society of the town was frightfully licentious because of the proximity of a military garrison," but which is said by herself to have been that "the upper stratum of society was somewhat licentious." Whatever the exact language, it was enough to arouse the utmost indignation of "the upper stratum," and many women of the leading families resolved to defeat at any cost the candidate whom Mrs. Gougar supported, some of them being still further stirred up by anonymous circulars attacking their personal reputation, which were scattered broadcast over the city. The scenes at the polls are thus described:

"Women, white and black, indiscriminately, stood in front of the precincts and fervently solicited electors to vote the ticket that each one was championing. The ladies were not only enthusiastic for their respective candidates, but they engaged in controversy with each other on the sidewalks. They went into hacks to bring their female friends to the voting places, placed tickets in the hands of their friends, and actually had altercations, which, on other occasions, would, so far as it affects women, be regarded as disreputable. Ladies occupied carriages of all kinds, and ordered them driven hither and thither to pick up all classes of women, irrespective of color or social standing, to cast their ballots for their particular candidates. Their turnouts were decorated with banners and flags indicating their special choice for Mayor, and the polite lady's washerwoman and her hired girl had to vote as the polite lady requested, or a war of words followed."

"The upper stratum" won, Neely being elected by the narrow margin of only forty-six majority; but this is only the first round in the contest, "and from this political fight," it is predicted, "has sprung up a social warfare that will be carried on for years to come."

Reviewing the field, it appears a fair conclusion that in small villages woman suffrage makes no perceptible difference in the result. As the size of the town increases, positive effects begin to manifest themselves from the organization of women—"organized women" sometimes deciding the election, but, as a rule, no more wisely, it would seem, than "organized" voters of any other class. The spectacle of negro women who cannot read their ballots voting at the dictation of a woman politician, is certainly not full of promise. But the most striking and serious feature of the experiment is the precipitation of sexual controversies into municipal elections. This is seen in Parsons, with only about 4,000 people, and reached its culmination in Leavenworth, the chief city of the State.

The government of cities is the great problem of the day. The chief value of the Kansas testimony is for its bearing upon this problem. It must be a hopeful person who can find in these reports arguments in favor of introducing woman suffrage in a State like New York, where one half of the population live in cities larger than Leavenworth.

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"GREAT SPEECHES."

ONE of the most striking illustrations of the absence of really exciting questions in the political arena is the decline among us of serious oratory, and the disappearance of "the great speech" from the political literature of the day. It may be safely said that, from the foundation of the Government down to the close of the war, the country never was without one or two orators, and sometimes there were half-a-dozen, who in the course of the year made one or two speeches, on some stirring topic, which were reported and circulated, and eagerly read as "great speeches." No discussion used to be complete until Webster, or Clay, or Calhoun, or Seward, or Sumner, or Trumbull, or Fessenden, or half-a-score of others, had said their say in a long and more or less elaborate oration which the newspapers reported in full, which was read at every fireside in the country, which played a very important part in shaping public opinion, and which supplied quotations and catchwords to the newspapers and minor orators for months afterwards. Moreover, tens of thousands of voters all over the country used to refrain from making up their minds until their favorite orator had been heard from, and the orator himself knew what was expected of him. His failure to produce "the great speech" would have been considered a neglect of the duties of his position, which nothing but ill-health could excuse. His friends in the press, too, prepared for it long in advance by announcing that he was at work on it, and predicting that when it came off it would probably be "the greatest effort of his life," which it generally was. The occasion which imposed the production of the "great speech" on the man in public life also furnished a lecture to the literary man, and the lecture differed from the speech mainly in being rather more elaborate, and in being capable of indefinite repetition. The political orator could not give the speech more than once, but the lecturer carried his all over the country, and the oftener he was asked to reproduce it the more successful it was considered to be.

All this may be said, for a good many years past, to be completely at an end. We have hardly a speaker left in public life whose utterances are looked for with anything but languid curiosity, or are searched for anything but dexterous "bids" for a nomination, or are quoted or discussed, except by opponents as examples of inconsistency or evasion. In fact, it is hardly too sweeping to say that Col. "Bob" Ingersoll is almost the sole representative of the old school of orators and lecturers—that is, the only speaker who draws large houses to hear him on serious topics. Whatever one may think of the topics or of his way of treating them, it must be acknowledged that it would be hard to say to what better place than one of his lectures one could take an inquiring foreigner, who wished to see a specimen of the American platform in the old days before and during the war.

On the other hand, the public dinner has received an enormous development, as a means of letting the public hear from anybody about whom it is supposed to have any curiosity, or who is supposed to have something on his mind which it would like to hear. Its use as "an occasion" has increased wonderfully during the past twenty years. The English used to be the foremost nation in the world in turning it to account, but we have far surpassed them in the frequency with which we resort to it. The French use it now and then, but are more frequently content with the offer of "un punch," which sufficiently furnishes the "to-asts" that draw out the orator. The growth of wealth, the improvement in hotels and restaurants, and the reluctance of busy men to quit their homes in the evening except to dine, have doubtless all contributed to this tendency to substitute the dining-table for the rostrum. But the effect on all our oratory, political as well as other, has been very marked. Nothing can ever prevent a dinner's seeming to the guests a social occasion, or even make them willing, after dinner, to respond to any heavy demands on their powers of reflection or attention. Every man after a good dinner, and still more after a bad one, in his secret heart expects to be amused, or at all events entertained in some light way. He will not follow a train of reasoning, or respond readily to a call for high resolves or noble aspirations. Gentle ridicule pleases him over his cigar and coffee far more than the most lucid exposition or triumphant logical refutation.

This use of the dining-room, too, as an occasion for public speaking has produced in England and America a distinct type of oratory unknown either to the ancients or to the nations of Continental Europe—but known to everybody here as the "after-dinner speech." Now the essentials of an after-dinner speech are that it should be humorous or lively; that it should touch every topic lightly, and should make no heavy or prolonged draughts on any one's sober-mindedness; that it should not be an attempt to edify or instruct. In fact, the more it makes people laugh, the more successful it is. It is accordingly to-day the style of oratory most cultivated among us. Nothing to day gives a man more of a certain kind of fame and popularity than excellence in it. Indeed, we may say that through no channel can a man acquire so much influence with so little expenditure of labor or money. Our young men are to-day really more anxious to acquire it than any other style of oratory. There is far more demand for it than for any other. A man's chances of being called on to speak at a dinner are twenty times greater than his chances of being called on to speak on any other occasion. The style acquired for success in after-dinner oratory is accordingly carried into all oratory. At public meetings, nowadays, every speaker tries to be jocose as his first duty. He opens his speech with a joke more or less elaborate, and a vein of humor is apt to run all through it, the seriousness only appearing at rare intervals. One of the most striking of recent illustrations of this was the meeting called to support the High-License Bill in this city some weeks ago, at which some of our best local speakers appeared. The promoters of the meeting were terribly in earnest, and nothing could well be graver than the subject, which was neither more nor less than the merits of a particular way of attacking an immense mass of vice, crime, and poverty. Nevertheless, every speech began with a joke, and was studded with jokes, and some of the jokes which elicited most laughter were about drunkenness. In fact, it would have been hard for a liquor-dealer to leave the hall without feeling that he was the great mirth-producer of American society, and that even the temperance people recognized the traditional joy-giving quality of good liquor.

The same cause which has introduced so much jocosity into our oratory has also given great prominence to the anecdote or "good story." Formerly, it used to come in occasionally as an illustration, but now many a speech is often a mere string of anecdotes. This is a fresh proof of the scarcity of serious subjects in the political arena. It may be taken as a general rule of conversation that the fewer subjects a man can talk about, the more stories he tells. In primitive states of society and in remote communities social intercourse consists almost entirely in the interchange of very long stories, told in a dramatic manner, with mimicry. In many parts of the Southwestern and Southern States to-day, these stories take the place of conversation at social gatherings almost completely, and the best raconteur literally "rules the roast." As population becomes more dense, and acquaintance with men and books increases, and topics multiply, the stories are shortened up into anecdotes, and any attempt to draw them out is viewed with disfavor, and finally punished as a bore. In the modern society of great capitals, stories are now only permitted in the shortest, crispest, and most epigrammatic form. The "point" has to be produced almost immediately, before any one has had time to foresee it or to lose patience in waiting for it. A man who contributes nothing but stories to the talk of clever men and women is suspected, and often justly, of having nothing else to contribute. It is, perhaps, partly in consequence of this social ostracism that the story is taking refuge so largely in public speeches. But it is undoubtedly due in a still larger degree to the absence of topics fitted to draw the old thunder from the oratorical sky. If we said, also, that the increased scrappiness and gossipiness of the newspaper press were making serious moods more difficult for the general public, we should probably cause journalistic irritation, which we should be the first to deplore.

AFTER THE IRONSIDES ON A TRICYCLE.—I.

I HAD been working in London many weeks in the great heap of seventeenth-century documents at the British Museum, and among the old manuscripts in the Public Record Office at Fetter Lane. I had been tracking the career of that noble boy-Governor of colonial Massachusetts, young Harry Vane, who, returning home, strove through the Civil War, until he laid his head upon the block at last, that government of the people, by the people, and for the people might not perish from the earth. As I had followed the Ironsides in the musty papers, I had grown tired of the dust and mildew. On the occasion of a heavy sneeze in the Search-room of the Record Office—a premonition, perhaps, of asthma (I am a convert to the old belief that a sneeze opens a passage for

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outer spirits, good and evil, to enter a man)—the thought suddenly shaped itself within me, "Why should I not go after the Ironsides on a tricycle?" I acted upon the idea at once.

King Charles I. set up his standard in Nottingham, August 23, 1642, beginning the Civil War. The Earl of Essex, going the seventy miles from London to Northampton, there took command of the 20,000 Parliamentary levies, and marched after him. On the 24th August afterwards I followed on the track of Essex to Northampton, to-day a most prosaic shoe-town, sending to Parliament Bradlaugh. I bowled over the hills of the midland counties, now an easy bit of pedalling along a far-extending level, now a dismount and a push up a height, now a breathless rush from the upland into the vale, with the feet braced and hand hard on the brake.

It was lovely weather and a lovely land. I followed the Avon as it flowed winding from its source in a series of pretty transformations. It ran first, a little thread, from its high-lying spring. It looped off through the landscape out of sight, to appear again, close by Lutterworth, Wickliffe's old parish, as a gay ribbon—the scarlet poppies, the daisies, the purple ragged-robins, the blue larkspurs throwing in their reflections from the margin until the silvery band was edged with brilliant color. At length, as I lay on the churchyard grass behind the church of Stratford—for those few evening moments nearer to Shakspere's dust than any other mortal—the river had become a Roman scarf, banded and shot through with the tints of the sunset.

Southward from Stratford at length, I saw rising before me the high outlying spur of the Cotswolds, Edgehill, reaching the breezy summit of which, I had at my feet the fairest prospect of the English Midlands. Blue to the west was the Great Malvern, by Worcester; nearer at hand, the wolds of Gloucestershire; Oxfordshire was close by; and the fine rolling country of Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, and Warwickshire, out of which I had just come, lay east and north—all spread, that August noon, in perfect summer beauty, under bright sunshine, the verdure brilliant from lately fallen rain, bits of forest dark on vivid grass, the gray of church-towers, the yellow of freshly-built wheat-stacks, a patch of deep red now and then where the soil lay bare. The stretch of plain just below me claimed my especial notice, dignified as it had been by a great event: there it was that Essex, advancing from Warwick, and Charles, descending the steep slope of Edgehill from the brow on which I stood, clashed together.

It was a drawn action, and, with a glance at an interesting figure who played a part there, I must pass on to a greater and more decisive field. In Warwick Castle, the day before I was at Edgehill, I saw one of the most attractive of the portraits of Vandyke—a handsome youth, scarcely more than twenty, in a corselet over a coat of buff leather, beautiful brown hair falling over the broad linen collar, the cheek smooth, the eyes bright with manly, martial energy. It is Prince Rupert, close upon the time when he was to become famous. I had known well in Heidelberg Castle, the nook where he was born, a hawk's nest high above the Neckar; and the hawk is no inapt symbol of this man, whose life was involved in the wildest storms, whose glance was like lightning, whose swoop towards his prey was resistless, whose heart was rapacious and merciless. In all the thousand figures that become prominent in this time of struggle, there is none so picturesque as this young prince, so haughty and cruel, so swift and beautiful. If to his courage and persistence could have been united good judgment, he might have been one of the greatest of soldiers. In the landscape of his time his fame is as the flash of a sword-blade, the waving of a brilliantly dyed scarf; it catches the eye for a moment, but is utterly unsubstantial.

For the Parliament, things went from bad to worse. Whoever studies the story—it has never been given so thoroughly and accurately as by Samuel Rawson Gardiner in his great history of this time, just published—must feel that the saving of the cause of freedom at this juncture was due especially to that most American of Englishmen, young Sir Henry Vane. With Pym and Hampden both dead, he succeeded to their leadership. He was not a soldier, but fought in the midst of dangers and hardships scarcely less upon the floor of Parliament. To him it was mainly due that Parliament did not supinely succumb to the King, leaving the grievances unredressed, that stern discipline brought harmony out of insubordination and divided counsels, that an alliance with Scotland was at last made which brought 20,000 hardy soldiers to the support of the failing cause.

I reached York at the end of a summer afternoon, passing in under the ancient wall which girds the town, still substantially as it was left by the engineers of Charles. It is of gray stone, buttressed and battlemented; the ancient gates, intact, bear the same escutcheons and inscriptions as when they barred out the Parliament. I did not linger, but was soon following the old Marston road, along which, July 2, 1644, the Parliamentary army withdrew from the siege of York, with Rupert in their rear. Westward, within a mile or so, I soon saw a heavy growth of forest, between which and the road lay a broad marshy plain, broken by hedges. The plain also extended southward, ending at the distance of half a league in a long low ridge—grass land it was, while on the ridge the harvests just reaped were stacked high. These were all noteworthy localities. The forest was Wilstrup Wood, of which there will be presently mention; the ridge was the ground upon which the men of the Parliament turned at bay; the marshy plain was Marston Moor—the entire landscape little changed since the battle-day, except that what was then open moor land is now an enclosed and cultivated tract. In Long Marston, a straggling village of thatched cottages along a winding street, I found an old farmer, of a stock which, father and son, had been upon the spot since the battle day. Between six and seven o'clock, the sun still bright, the very hour when the battle began, I rode with the farmer in a two-wheeled cart without springs down a track which led into the centre of Marston Moor, and studied the field from the point where the fight was most desperate.

How did the foemen stand in this battle, all things considered, the greatest which has taken place on English soil since Hastings? Each host was about 25,000 strong. For the Parliament the chief command was in the hands of an old soldier of Gustavus, the Scotch Earl of Leven, but his fire was burnt out, and it would have gone hard with the Parliament had there not been better soldiers there than he. Sir Thomas Fairfax had covered the rear, as the allies withdrew, as brave and skilful a chief as ever led Englishmen; and as he began at Marston to feel the breath of Rupert's sharp pursuit, he sent hot alarm to the advance, posting himself at the same time in the village. He had some seasoned troops, but many were raw recruits. Next to Fairfax, the line running west along the ridge, Leven, who hurried back, placed his centre, or main "battle," tough Scotch infantry, sternest Covenanters, massed in solid squares, the pikemen in the centre, the musketeers on either flank—a superannuated arrangement, to which the military pedant adhered. The Lords who were in chief command that day were generally inexperienced, but their subordinates were often veterans from the Thirty Years' War, schooled, sometimes demoralized and steeled, to all forms of ruthlessness in desperate scenes of carnage and license. Among these Dugald Dalgettys the best soldier was David Leslie. The world has not often seen stouter men than were the Scots that day, but some of them were destined to gain little credit, rather perhaps through the force of circumstances than any failure of their own. West of the centre came the English infantry of the Earl of Manchester, flanked by cavalry, like the wing of Fairfax. The line ended at the village of Tockwith, with the Scotch troopers of David Leslie, between whom and the infantry sat on powerful chargers a body of about 2,300 men, conspicuous at a glance from out the entire host as in every way perfectly appointed and disciplined. Notice these men well, far out on the left wing there, the afternoon sun flashing upon the bridle-hand as they steadily range themselves.

A young Cavalier dandy of 1640 has left behind him a description of a man he saw at the opening of the Long Parliament, "very ordinarily apparelled, in a plain cloth suit made by an ill country tailor, his linen not very clean, his hat without a band, his stature of good size, his sword stuck close to his side, his countenance swollen and reddish, his voice sharp and untunable, and his eloquence full of fervor. I sincerely profess, it lessened much my reverence unto that Great Council, for the gentleman was very much hearkened unto." This rude-looking country squire has since then had some reputation in the field. He was in the mêlée at Edgehill, but little noticed on that day. A significant remark, however, which he made to his cousin, Hampden, was afterwards recalled. It was to this effect, that if Rupert were to be successfully met, it must be by troopers of better stuff than tapsters and worn-out serving-men. The Cavalier vigor must have set against it breasts inspired by the spirit of God. Forthwith he set to work to constitute such a body of troopers, and this night on Marston Moor, he and they are to win their first great fame—men equally good at prayer, at sermon, and at sabre. So the 25,000 stood ranged, their artillery in front, a mile and a-half along the ridge between Marston and Tockwith, Oliver Cromwell and his men far over on the left wing. At Warwick Castle you are shown the steel cap that covered his head as he galloped and smote and shouted his Old-Testament war-cries where the danger was thickest. As the Parliament men took position, they trampled down the tall grain just ready for harvest. Now and then a dash of summer rain incommoded them. As Covenanter and Puritan sang their battle-hymns low thunder was heard in the pauses.

As there was division in the host of the Parliament, Scot and Englishman not coalescing with entire cordiality, so, among the Cavaliers, Rupert had been supercilious, and his subordinates were sullen. There was delay in forming, but at length on the Moor, opposite the embattled ridge, an answering array was placed. The foemen faced each other across a narrow interval, separated, however, by a deep drain, known as the White Syke Ditch. There was little difference in dress or armor; the Parliament men wore, therefore, in their hats a white badge. Rupert's standard of silk, emblazoned with the arms of the Palatinate, and with a cross of red, waved over his life-guard. After heavy cannonading, the battle began at seven, the two lines, equally eager, moving forward to the ditch throughout their lengths. Fairfax at the right had a difficult task, being forced to proceed through bad ground by a narrow obstructed lane. His column was struck by the Cavaliers with all possible fury and completely crushed. The centre, too, was nearly broken, multitudes of Scots, among

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them the Earl of Leven himself, taking to flight. The Cavaliers thought the battle gained, and parties of them fell to plundering the baggage on the ridge—for them a sorrowful mistake.

The sun of the long summer day was now near its setting, the level light tinging the war cloud above the cumbered field. The day was lost for the Parliament on the side of Marston, but at the west the fortune had been different. While the infantry of Manchester had boldly come to push of pike, the horse of Cromwell, minding as little the volleys of the musketeers from the White Syke as they had the rain of the afternoon, spurred forward. Rupert at the moment was at supper with many of his troopers, but all were in the saddle in an instant, under the folds of the great banner. His own charge was as prompt as that of the Puritans, and the thousands of galloping horses and brandished swords met like nothing so much as two opposed oceans. Let fancy picture the horses overthrown, writhing and rolling upon their riders, the shouted war cries, the curse from the lips of the Cavalier, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon" from the Roundhead, while lance and sabre rang upon headpiece and corselet! At one moment all seemed lost for the Parliament. Cromwell, wounded in the neck, was for an instant stunned, and the Roundheads recoiled. David Leslie, however, drove in like lightning with his Covenanters upon the Cavalier flank. Cromwell, dashing the stupor from his senses, was again at the front. The steeds of the Cavaliers were beaten back upon their haunches; their line was forced through and through; at last a great swarm of entreating and bewildered riders fled rearward to where the twilight was beginning to gather in the heavy Wilstrup Wood.

It is said that here Cromwell and Leslie paused for a moment in the pursuit, and that just then a small group of panting men, in broken armor, on steeds well-nigh spent, suddenly appeared to the victors. All had plainly but just emerged from a life-and-death struggle, and their leader, scarcely recognizable on account of a streaming sabre cut on his face, declared himself to be Fairfax. From his conquered wing he had burst his way through his pursuers, bringing through the battle smoke the first news of his defeat. The points of Oliver were once more advanced. The troopers, not less perfect in discipline than ardent in courage, obeyed his shout, and went back once more to the White Syke, close at hand to the hard-pressed Parliamentary centre, "both sides not a little surprised that they must fight it over again, when each thought victory gained." In the shadows the strife became more than ever close and desperate, but the Puritan prevailed. The "White Coats," the flower of the Cavalier infantry, stood alone at length, within the "White Syke Close," a space on the moor ditched in and difficult of access. Here, disdaining to flee, and refusing quarter, to a man they died in their ranks as they had stood. Day faded, and the moon lighted the awful battle upon which at last a solemn hush descended. Faint and far, however, from the gloom of Wilstrup Wood and from the road, comes a sound of galloping horse, of the stroke of the sword upon armor, of voices raised in pleading. The Roundheads, tireless, implacable, through the night pursue the fugitives to the gates of York. Nearly one-quarter of the Cavaliers fell upon the field and in the pursuit. Thus the mighty Oliver bore Rupert to the earth, and Rupert it was who then and there gave him and his troops the name of "Ironsides."

So at seven o'clock of the summer evening, the hour when the battle was joined, I rode towards the moor in the two-wheeled cart with the old farmer for a guide. On the ridge to the rear a clump of trees marked the headquarters of Leven, behind the Parliamentary line. We passed now the station of Fairfax, the farmer telling me of seeing skeletons disinterred, and how fine and sound the teeth were, evidently men young and in their full strength. We turned from the highroad into that lane that led into the moor, down which Fairfax had charged. The weather had been dry, but the ground was still so marshy that the hoofs of the heavy farm horse slumped in the black mire, and we jarred unsteadily on, as now one wheel and now the other sank into a rut. From a quarter to half a mile of such progress, then, turning to the left, we were presently on the brink of a deep ditch, the White Syke itself, and in the centre of the field. Here Fairfax was met as he debouched upon the moor, and dashed into ruin; and here, too, the Ironsides, after their stubborn breasting of Rupert's spears, charged home upon the backs of the Cavaliers, at the very moment when with their pikes they were thrusting into rout the Scots of Leven. Here, said the old man, indicating with his hand a strip of field before us, many skeletons have been ploughed up, cannon balls, too, and often bullets, the lead covered with a white rust from the long burial. It was the place where the "White Coats" had died in their ranks. I looked across to where the spire of Tockwith rose among the trees at the distance of a mile. Smooth acres lay between, which imagination peopled with a fierce confusion of clanging troopers, long-locked gallants under a red cross swooping after the handsome Prince in his cloak of scarlet: thundering against them, the Roundhead inundation whose crest was of pitiless steel! All lay in the quietest peace. The deepening evening lent solemnity to the fields and to the shadows of Wilstrup Wood close by, the trees of which bore long in their hearts the Parliamentarian bullets. At the bottom of the White Syke, still good cover for resolute infantry, and a dangerous obstacle to horse, ran a sullen black stream. I climbed over it as an old musketeer might have done, while the last load of hay for the day was going home from the field where the "White Coats" lay buried. I dismissed the cart and the old man as the twilight grew deep, crossing the fields alone from which had advanced Rupert's left. If his right had advanced at Marston Moor to such good purpose, Charles I. would have regained his throne.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE JUBILEE COERCION BILL.

DUBLIN, April 2, 1887.

DURING the winter there was little new to say regarding general politics in Ireland. They went their usual way, and anything that to young persons or to those freshly awakened to the Irish question appeared novel, was only natural development of previous events, or what has been the normal condition of the country for the past half-century. The Plan of Campaign was indeed original in some of its conceptions; it was, however, but a closer consolidation of that system of combination among the tenantry through which the Land League achieved its earlier triumphs. In its main features, and as worked under the approval of its sponsors, Mr. Dillon and Mr. O'Brien, the Plan has on the whole been justified by events. There were several of the large landed proprietors whom nothing could bring to reason, who had in them no bowels of compassion; and if the only screw possible has been turned upon them, we must not be too ready to condemn it as an infraction of the moral law simply because we are not accustomed to outraged humanity using that defensive weapon. Justification of the refusal to meet theoretical contracts no doubt tends to throw all society into confusion—to relax the obligations which consolidate it. But already every moral idea regarding land-holding in Ireland has been confused for generations by external law, supported by irresistible material force, sustaining the landowners in gradually confiscating the improvements of the tenants and their labor beyond a mere living—a mere living even in the best of seasons. It may also be remembered that numerous British members of Parliament and others, having during the past few months traversed this country from north to south and east to west, and interviewed representatives of all parties, religions, and politics, have returned to England to advocate the tenants' side of the question. The stand which the *Pall Mall Gazette* now makes is entirely due to the conscientious and thorough investigations of Mr. Stead, who, I know, came over by no means disposed to take the tenants' side of the question to the extent he has since done.

The Government has hitherto been relying upon what it has been pleased to style the "ordinary law." It is an "ordinary law" which to English-speaking peoples must appear very extraordinary. Under it the Habeas Corpus Act was in some respects practically suspended, and the power of arbitrary imprisonment revived by the simple expedient of Government moving the Queen's Bench and the minor courts, by virtue of obsolete powers and acts of Parliament, to make obnoxious persons give bail for good behavior or go to jail. It was accomplished in other cases by refusing to admit to bail prisoners charged with bailable offences. The Crown resorted to laws and methods of procedure which have fallen into disuse in Great Britain, and the revival of which in practice would not be there tolerated. In several cases trials were postponed from assizes to assizes, and the prisoner was finally discharged without trial; and again, in the words of the *Pall Mall Gazette*: "The Government withdrew the charge of felony, on the strength of which they had secured the refusal of bail, and proceeded on other counts of a less serious nature, which deprived the prisoner of the right of challenging more than six jurors, while the Crown had the right of ordering any number to stand aside."

Jury-packing has been shamelessly practised. Take the case of the Woodford trials at Sligo. In that town there are nine Catholics to one Protestant. The jury panel, prepared by a Tory landlord high sheriff, a Tory land agent subsheriff, and a Tory clerk of the Crown, resulted in a panel of 128 Protestants and 122 Catholics. Then there were six juries, in the striking of which the Crown, by its unlimited challenge, marked off ninety-six names, while the prisoners could object to only thirty-six, and as a net result two juries were constituted entirely of Protestants, and three others with nine, ten, and eleven Protestants on them respectively. Under the "ordinary law" the Government has in many ways dispensed with all law, acted with impunity in violation of law, and made laws for itself. We had the Attorney-General writing in relation to the Plan of Campaign, "I do not see how any action can be taken by the Executive." Then, after some weeks, we had the Plan proclaimed an illegal conspiracy by Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and Sir M. H. Beach. Then came an abortive trial to test its legality. Meetings were suppressed by force in several parts of the country simply on the motion of the Government.

To illegality has been added the strangest blundering, and the worst blunder of all has been the arrest and imprisonment of Father Keller and Father Ryan for refusing to give evidence before the courts in the matter of persons made bankrupts through having adopted the Plan of Campaign. In a normal state of society there would be no grounds for their refusal, but, as affairs

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stand in Ireland, their refusal was inevitable; their evidence could readily have been dispensed with; and for Judge Boyd to have brought the Government into full conflict in this matter with the people and clergy, backed up personally by the Archbishops of Cashel and Dublin, is a singular proof of how entirely the governing classes here are ignorant of the feelings and prejudices of the mass of the people. Much that goes on in Ireland now resembles scenes from an opéra bouffe. Father Keller and Father Ryan, under arrest, insisted on travelling to Dublin by slow trains, so as to receive the demonstrations of the populace, ecclesiastics, and town councils on the way. The Archbishop of Dublin and the Lord Mayor with their carriages attended them to prison. The authorities insisted that the prisoners themselves should go in cabs. This they did, attended by enormous crowds of the populace, who took the horse from under Father Keller's cab and drew it themselves to prison, and, a few days afterwards, wanted to lynch the cabman who drove Father Ryan to the same place.

The present Government, like their predecessors, Liberal or Conservative, came into office pledged to grant no self-government to Ireland, but to pacify her by immediate and sweeping reforms and by the removal of all grievances. Our present rulers have been eight months in office and have done nothing. It would appear easy for a powerful and determined Administration to carry out the above policy. But it has not been done, and, judging by similar experiments in the past, we must infer that, in Ireland's case, effectual and beneficial reform is impossible upon lines repugnant to the vast majority of the people. And we now have, in the eighty-seventh year of so-called Union and in the fiftieth year of the Queen's reign, which we are asked to celebrate, a Coercion Bill more hateful to the mass of the Irish people than any former one—introduced upon slighter grounds, more inefficient for the desired purposes, and more subversive of all ideas of liberty and political growth. What has to be combated and overcome here is want of confidence in law—heartfelt detestation of it, unless when it affects the narrowest personal interests. Mr. Gladstone has completely exposed the flimsiness of the statistics upon which is based the supposed necessity for the measure. Some of Mr. Balfour's own figures are most striking. Among 755 cases of personal injury through moonlighting and the like, in 422 cases the injured parties have themselves refused to aid in the detection of the criminals. A Coercion Act such as that proposed would doubtless lead to the conviction and punishment of many persons who without it would go free. But, administered, as it would be, by partisan paid magistrates, depending on the Castle, it would inevitably lead to the perpetration of much direct injustice, and confirm the conviction of the people that the law was a power apart from and against them. Mr. Balfour is, I believe, the ninth Chief Secretary who within the past seven years has taken upon himself the task of "governing" this country—we have had six Lord-Lieutenants and four Under-Secretaries in the same period.

The attitude of Mr. Chamberlain and his friends, the "Coercionist Radicals," as Mr. Morley calls them, is not surprising. Home rule, from being the harmless craze of a few Irish fanatics and the powerless mass of the Irish people, has become the serious conviction of men like Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Morley. The real contest has begun. We are face to face with the honest belief of the Cavour party in England, that party of which the able and weighty *Spectator* is the exponent, that reform may with safety be granted to Ireland, but never the right of administering her own internal affairs. And if I have correctly gauged the strength and depth of conviction of that party, the struggle will be long and severe; the futility of a system of coercion even stronger, perhaps, than that now proposed by Mr. Balfour may have to be proved before we, or those that come after us, see the end of this miserable and, to both parties, debasing conflict.

In one direction, however, there is certain light and hope. The difficulty in past years was that there was no common ground of sympathy upon which the countries could unite—no common ground for honorable compromise and union. We have that now in the person and character and action of Mr. Gladstone. To men like Mr. Morley and Lord Spencer, honor is due for the fearless manner in which they have enunciated the opinions regarding home rule into which the logic of events has forced them; but to few men has been given in their old age the clearness and freshness of vision of Mr. Gladstone—so above all predilections and interests, so entirely forgetful of much that we have done and said against him. When he has come so far to meet us, there can be no dishonor in our going a long way to meet him. And this influence is working a slow but sure revolution in the feelings of the masses of our people towards friendship with England, and in the direction of loyally accepting any settlement which he in conjunction with Mr. Parnell would recommend. Mr. Gladstone's removal from public life might delay, but it could not now prevent, the ultimate consummation of the task to which he has so unflinchingly and resolutely devoted himself. Mr. Chamberlain and his friends may be, and doubtless are, holding out for his retirement. But whenever (unfortunately) it comes, they will find that they have been mistaken—that the good results and the consummation of his policy do not depend on the life of any one man or set of men.

D. B.

THE MORAL RESPECTABILITY OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

LONDON, March 26, 1887.

"THE first Liberal," some zealous Tory has said, "was the devil." The dictum, we may suppose, was delivered at about the same period when Sir Walter Scott undoubtedly expressed a fear lest the sound principles of the young Duke of Buccleuch should be injured by attending the lectures of that most respectable of Whigs, Mr. Smythe, Professor of History at Cambridge. "Why do people become Tories?" asked a child of his mother, a sound Whig. "Because, my dear, they are born bad, and make themselves worse." An eminent Republican, we are told in England, summed up the character of parties in the United States in the remark: "I don't say that all Democrats are horse-stealers, but I do say that all horse-stealers are Democrats." A man of good memory might easily collect scores of sayings like those I have cited, and a man who did collect them would, it is probable, cite them as proofs of the unfairness produced by party spirit. Nor is this way of drawing a lesson from the language in which Tories speak of Whigs, or Whigs speak of Tories, illegitimate. The vices of party spirit are notorious; and if any one thinks it worth while to try whether he can cure the faults of human nature by the free application of moral platitudes, he has a full right to do so.

Let me, however, at once say that nothing is further from my wish than to turn the *Nation* into a pulpit whence to deliver sermons on the odiousness of faction. The texts of my discourse, if so I may call it, are cited for another object. They express the feeling of strong partisans that, at a given moment, the moral worth, the "respectability" (if one may use in its right sense a much-abused term) of the country is in the main enlisted in favor of the party to which the speaker belongs. This, it may be said, is a natural prejudice. So be it. What, however, is to be noticed is that, in England at least (and I should suppose also in America), this so-called prejudice has, as a matter of history, been constantly justified by fact. Respectability, moral worth—what Matthew Arnold means, I suppose, by conduct—has at different periods been enlisted on the side now of what we may vaguely call Liberalism, and now of what we may equally vaguely call Conservatism or Toryism. There really has been, as every historian will admit, a respectable party, opposed to a party who were in the main the less respectable, not to say the disreputable, party.

This opposition is traceable nowhere more clearly than in the contest of which it may be said, with most truth, that the best men in the nation were to be found ranged against each other. It hardly needs the morbid impartiality of Mr. Gardiner to convince candid readers that Roundheads and Cavaliers were not divided from one another by the line which separates good from bad. A student must be prejudiced indeed who can suppose that all the virtue of the English people was, during the Civil War, resident either at Oxford or at Westminster. Pym, Hampden, Cromwell, and Baxter, on the one side, Laud, Hyde, Falkland, on the other, may at the present day be regarded by all competent judges with a calmness and with a sympathy impossible to writers even of the last generation. But to recognize that in a crisis of immense, and to the men of the seventeenth century of strictly unprecedented, difficulty, persons equally wise and equally good were impelled by duty and by judgment to follow opposite paths, is quite a different thing from believing that one path was as well chosen as the other, or that, on the whole, and speaking (as is necessary in such matters) very much in the rough, the moral sense of the country did not incline more towards one course than the other. Take it all in all, the good sense and the morality of England went with the Parliament against Charles. The dictum of the American Republican in principle exactly hits the case. It were folly to say that all or many of the Cavaliers were rakes or blackguards, but the rakes, blackguards, or adventurers tended to support the Court. Baxter at Kidderminster found that the drunkards were generally Loyalists. "The pure Royalism of the Restoration," writes Mr. Gardiner, "appeared in Waller in all its native offensiveness." The very vices of the Parliamentary party are in some sense a proof of its virtues. Religious cant is profitable to hypocrites only among associates who have a genuine care for religion. Though there were good men and saintly men among the followers of Charles, the respectability of the nation was, up to 1649, with the Parliament. The Restoration, again, was something more than the mere heyday of moral license and courtly servility. Admiration of Puritan virtue must not hide from us the fact that the best men of England and Scotland welcomed the restoration of the monarchy. Nor, if Charles II. had been anything like the ruler whom the best Presbyterians no less than the best Episcopalians hoped for, is it at all impossible that the restoration of the King might have founded a form of monarchy based on law and liberty.

The license of Charles II. and the bigotry of James II. threw the moral weight of the nation on to the side of the Whigs. When any one reflects on the disadvantages entailed by law and sentiment on dissent, no one can doubt that at the end of the seventeenth century the English Dissenters represented much of the solid worth which made up the character of the nation, and for a century at least the Dissenters were with the Whigs. To put the matter in the most gene-

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ral terms, the Whigs were, from the Revolution of 1689 till very near the middle of George III.'s real reign, the respectable party. But—and this is a point which needs careful attention—the Whigs of 1760 were in many points what we should term conservative in spirit. Add to this that, even before they were attacked by George III., the moral supremacy of the Whigs was on the wane.

Take, now, another long period of fifty years or so—say from 1780 to nearly 1832. Can any fair Liberal really doubt that, from causes which are easily traceable (as, for instance, the moral reaction caused by French infidelity and by French Jacobinism), the respectability of the country was in the main with the Tories? If any one looks either at the general set of public opinion or at the equally instructive streamlets—if so you may call them—of biographical experience, he will acknowledge that the statement I have made, taken with all the numerous reservations to which all generalizations about human affairs are subject, is in the strictest sense true, and, if anything, rather within the truth. Among the English people on either side the Atlantic, religious feeling has been at all times the best index to the real and effective beliefs of the day. Now, the period I have mentioned was a time of religious revival, and Puritanism has shown—though foreign Liberals find it almost impossible to recognize this fact—that religious fervor has no essential connection with monarchical or reactionary sympathies. Through the whole of this period, nevertheless, the religious parties of the day supported the Tories. This connection, moreover, between religion and Toryism was not connected with indifference on the part of religious men to reforms which they believed to be for the benefit of the people. Mr. Wilberforce and Mr. Wilberforce's friends were the leading philanthropists of the time, yet as a body they were followers of Pitt and of Pitt's successors. The secret of the adherence on the part of good and philanthropic men to the Tories is well enough expressed in a speech delivered by Macaulay in his early and very transitory phase of boyish Toryism. He brought down the cheers of the Cambridge Union by a eulogy of the "good old King." The good old King, with all his dulness and cunning, was the type to the English people of moral and patriotic respectability. His virtues were set off to perfection by the vices of the Prince; and the Prince, be it remembered, was the favorite and patron of the Whigs. If any one wants to know why the exalted genius of Burke never exercised half the weight with the nation which was its due, he can do nothing better than study the account of the relation between the Prince and the Whigs given in the memoirs of Lord Minto.

Lord Grey, Lord Althorpe, and Lord John Russell gave new life to the Whigs, not by importing into the party genius or insight, but by renewing their good character. And when Liberalism became, in 1832, the predominant creed of the country, the Liberals were (politically at least) as respectable a party as opponents who had for years borne the odium and reaped the advantage of Tory jobs. Croker and Lord Lyndhurst were good partisan leaders, but were not persons to carry weight with the English public. The struggle between Peel and his opponents was mainly a struggle for political character, and in the contest Peel on the whole gained the advantage. The fall of the great Conservative Minister placed the Tories under the guidance of a leader who, whatever his merits, never rid himself or his party from the discredit of the mode in which he obtained the leadership, and the moral recklessness with which he fought for power. It is the fashion to extol Lord Beaconsfield as a great party leader. His great gifts as a Parliamentary combatant cannot be denied. But to his followers his leadership was fatal. To the English public the Conservatives became a faction led on adventures by a clever adventurer. Whether this opinion was sound or not is, for my present purpose, of no great consequence. What I urge on my readers' attention is, that the Liberals were intellectually and politically for many years the respectable party. They were the party of sound political doctrine and of admitted public spirit. A dull, well-meaning country gentleman, who sympathized with ordinary, even commonplace, English modes of thought and English ideas of political morality, would, on more occasions than one, have led the Conservatives to successes unattainable by all Mr. Disraeli's talent and audacity.

For here we come across another and, in the eyes of a careful observer, a most important point in the political history of England. Respectability has in the long run always commanded success. The respectable party has been the victorious party. In each one of the instances to which I have referred, this will be found to have been the case. The English public have, in the past at any rate, proved themselves good judges of character, whether in politics or in private life; they have proved themselves very inferior judges of policy or of statesmanship. If we take as a test of this the judgment of English electors at the end of the last or at the beginning of the present century, we shall see clearly that this was so. The public judgment was sound enough as to the demerits of Fox and Fox's followers; and the public were sagacious enough in keeping in power ministers whose general tone and character approved itself to the moral judgment of the day. If any one should attempt to read the Life of Mr. Percival he will find the task, to judge by my own experience, one of the dreariest that mortal man ever undertook. But the student will be rewarded by understanding better than he ever did before with what instinctive sagacity Englishmen pick out for honor the kind of moral respectability which they appreciate. If we want to see how ill a public opinion, which could judge well enough of character, could appreciate questions of policy, we have nothing to do but to read the common sense of Sydney Smith, and remember that the most sensible of English political writers was for many years occupied in the vain attempt to persuade Englishmen that the dictates of good sense ought not to be regarded as doctrines fit only for knaves or fanatics. The Edinburgh Reviewers, strange as the fact appears to us now, were by the majority of Englishmen held to be tainted with Jacobinism. The Whigs were in disrepute, and until Liberalism became respectable "the Whigs' not getting into place" was, as we learn from Byron, the one unchangeable fact in the changing world of politics. Nor, by the way, was his Lordship's own fame at all helpful to the success of his friends.

Combine the two facts that, looking at the past in a very general way, as one must do in matters of this kind, a student finds that there has constantly been in England a respectable party, at one time Conservative and at another Liberal, and that respectability has in the main coincided with permanent political success, and the following result ensues. Whoever wishes to form a forecast as to the fortune of English parties, will consider mainly their relation towards the ordinary moral beliefs of the country. If he sees that, on the whole, average good sense and character inclines to range itself on one side or the other of a political controversy, he will augur that the side favored by character is the side likely to win. Many of your readers may probably not agree with the estimate I should myself form as to the weight in point of character of the two parties into which the English political world is gradually dividing itself. One thing is, I conceive, undoubted. Conservatism, using that word in a very wide sense and independently of strict party divisions, has, within the last two or three years, received in England a great accession of moral strength; and if the reflections I have indulged in are in any degree sound, this fact is one of primary importance.

AN OBSERVER.

Correspondence.

POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The thirty-second report of the British Postmaster-General shows a considerable increase in the business of the Post-office Savings Bank during the year. The total amount due to depositors on the 31st of December was $231,334,515, an increase of $14,401,020 over the previous year. In addition to this, the balance of Government stock held by depositors at the close of the year was $11,893,323, making the total sum due to depositors $243,227,837, distributed over 3,535,650 separate accounts.

The number of new savings-bank offices opened during the year was 350, making the total number on the 31st of December 8,106. The greatest number of deposits made in one day was 48,568, and the largest amount deposited in one day was $605,490, which was deposited on the 1st of January. The Government stock investments were 17,133 in number, and the amount of stock purchased was $4,166,393, showing an increase of 5,604 in the number of holders. Eighteen hundred and eighty one provident, friendly, trade, and other societies obtained authority last year to invest their funds in the Post-office Savings Bank, and 200 penny banks also obtained authority to open accounts. A circular of the Education Department was recently issued, drawing the attention of all school boards to the desirability of instituting a penny savings bank at each of the public elementary schools.

A further effort was made last year to induce the hop-pickers who go down to Kent to avail themselves of the Post-office Savings-Bank. The scheme, however, failed; for the hop-pickers say they go for pleasure, just as the better classes go to the seaside, and that the money received barely pays their expenses.

A staff of Post-office clerks attended when the workmen employed in constructing the Suakim-Berber Railroad returned home and were paid off. The total sum deposited by these men was $6,053, and, considering the class to which they belonged, it is surprising they deposited so much.

In Canada, the Bahamas, the Cape of Good Hope, Queensland, New Zealand, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania the Postal Savings Bank is flourishing; while the following statement of such banks in the Continental countries shows their results:

Austria has 428,753 depositors, with a total amount due the depositors of about	$7,000,000
Belgium has 402,836 depositors, with a total amount due the depositors of about	28,000,000
France has 541,323 depositors, with a total amount due the depositors of about	23,000,000
Italy has 1,015,328 depositors, with a total amount due the depositors of about	28,000,000
Holland has 90,798 depositors, with a total amount due the depositors of about	18,000,000

Even in Japan the Post office Savings Bank has been in existence some years.

At the Postal Congress held at Lisbon it was decided, on the proposals of the French Delegate, to convene an International Conference on Post-office Savings Banks, with the idea of forming a Postal Savings Bank Union and devising a scheme of international transactions.

With such illustrations of the long-continued and widespread success of postal savings banks,

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is it not time for our Government to give its poor the advantages of this system by opening postal savings banks at each money-order office? If the citizens are commended who establish one successful savings bank, what honor shall be awarded our Congressmen who open 20,000 (?) savings banks? The justification for our Government adding this function to its other duties is (it seems to me) as strong as is its justification for carrying the mail; and probably most of the arguments in favor of Government post-offices could be adduced in favor of Government postal savings banks.

I venture the suggestion that the national Government might, while there is a surplus, lend the money thus deposited to the State governments, or buy their bonds, in amounts equal to the deposits made in their respective States. Thus the two-fold allegiance of the depositors would be reinforced, and the number of those pecuniarily and directly interested in the solvency and stability of both their State and the national Governments would be increased. HORACE J. SMITH.

MONTREUX, SWITZERLAND.

WOLSELEY ON LEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your issue of March 31, Gen. F. A. Walker criticises very severely the recent article of Lord Wolseley on Gen. Lee, published in the March *Macmillan*. Gen. Wolseley is accused of writing trash unworthy of anybody above a subaltern, and our British cousins are denounced for their ignorance and incapacity in all matters connected with our civil war. Gen. Walker's last words in regard to Wolseley's criticisms are that they are "silly, empty, and vain."

As Lord Wolseley is, and has been for years, the most distinguished officer in the British Army, has conducted with success campaigns in widely separated regions of the globe, and has risen by his talents to the top of his profession among our British cousins, who, though ignorant and incapable in military criticism, are still among the respectable military powers of the world, we were not a little surprised at this savage critique, and have re-read Lord Wolseley's article to see, if possible, wherein consists its offence in the eyes of so distinguished a military historian and critic as Gen. Walker. We have not been able to find any just ground for Gen. Walker's indignant criticism, and that you may see how different things look when viewed from different parallels of latitude, we add the following.

Lord Wolseley's article (which is a review of Gen. Long's recently published 'Memoirs of Lee') gives a sketch of Gen. Lee's personal life and character rather than of his military career, which could not be treated in so brief a space. The English soldier, with graceful and genial pen, portrays Lee's character from boyhood, declares him one of the only two heroes he has ever personally known, and states his deliberate conviction that Lee was not only the greatest soldier of the age, but the most perfect man he had ever met. Now there is nothing new or strange in all this, to one-half of our country at least, for it fully accords with the estimate placed upon Lee by the Southern people. His countrymen have admired, loved, venerated him not so much for his splendid talents as for that high virtue, that finished manhood, which constitute him in their conviction the fitting exponent of their civilization. To them he is the worthy representative and successor of Washington. It is pleasant for them to know that the recognition of his greatness is steadily widening, that impartial observers from the outside are able to descry his true lineaments through the clouds of misfortune and defeat. Lord Wolseley is but expressing in simpler language the opinion long since given by the accomplished English scholar, George Long, who, in his translation of the 'Thoughts of Marcus Aurelius,' after applying to Lee the line

"Victrix causa Deis placuit, sed victa Catoni,"

speaks of him as "the noble Virginian soldier whose talents and virtues place him by the side of the best and wisest men who sat on the throne of the imperial Cæsars."

Gen. Walker selects two instances to show Lord Wolseley's silliness as a military critic. First, Wolseley speaks of McClellan's army as hopelessly at the mercy of Lee's when the former began its retreat to Harrison's Landing, after the seven days' fighting around Richmond. After some strained criticism about the meaning of Wolseley's words, Gen. Walker goes on in a vein which would indicate that it was Lee and not McClellan that had the worst of it in this famous campaign. He thinks Lee's army "was on several occasions more at the mercy of McClellan than McClellan's army was on any one occasion at his (Lee's) mercy." Now, there are people, above the grade of subalterns, too, that agree with Gen. Walker, but we think they are few and rapidly becoming fewer. There has never been any doubt in the South that the operations referred to resulted in a great defeat to a large and well-appointed army which was ready to close in upon the Confederate capital; there was no doubt at the time in the minds of President Lincoln and his advisers as to the discomfiture of McClellan; and the importance of the victory gained by Lee has been generally recognized by foreign critics. But to come to the exact point, as to the condition of the Federal Army on its retreat from Malvern Hill to Westover (Harrison's Landing), Lord Wolseley is not alone in thinking that if a prompt and vigorous pursuit had been or could have been made, immense damage might have been inflicted upon the retreating forces. Lee himself says of the campaign that, "under ordinary circumstances, the Federal Army should have been destroyed." Stuart believed that if the Confederate infantry had followed him promptly to Westover, McClellan might have been overwhelmed, and Jackson thought that a great opportunity was lost by the delay. Gen. Hooker, one of the bravest and most dashing officers in the Federal Army, says of the retreat from Malvern (to which he was strongly opposed): "It was like the retreat of a whipped army. We retreated like a parcel of sheep—everybody on the road at the same time; and a few shots from the rebels would have panic-stricken the whole command." Gen. Casey says of McClellan's condition July 3: "Had the enemy come down and taken possession of those heights [the Evelington Heights overlooking Westover, where Stuart had placed a gun or two] with a force of 20,000 or 30,000 men, they would, in my opinion, have taken the whole of our army, except that small portion of it that might have got off on the transports." The Committee on the Conduct of the War report that "nothing but a heavy rain, thereby preventing the enemy from bringing up their artillery, saved the army there from destruction." Surely, Lord Wolseley is not "empty" or "silly" because found in such company!

And next about Fredericksburg. We believe Lee and Jackson were right in twice deeming a victorious attack on a Federal army placed on the south bank of the Rappahannock and under the protection of artillery on the Stafford Heights impracticable. But it is only fair to admit that this is a question with two sides to it. There is probably no point in Lee's military career (excepting Gettysburg) that has been more frequently criticised than his failure to attack Burnside on the 14th and 15th of December, 1862. In the South he has been often blamed for it, and foreign critics have frequently spoken of it as a blunder. Gen. Palfrey thinks Lee "probably decided wrongly"; and a British line officer, in one of the best descriptions of this battle we have seen, compares him unfavorably with Hannibal at the Trebia for losing so great an opportunity. The signal and astonishing confession of defeat that Burnside made by his retreat on the night of the 15th at the head of 100,000 fighting men, and his abandonment thus of a campaign but five days old and marked by no full trial of his strength, has, we think, misled many writers into an overestimate of the possibilities of Lee's situation; but he is, to say the least, a bold critic who denounces the judgment of the leader of the English Army as silly and empty for thinking that Burnside might have been crushed.

Gen. Lee once said: "The general who never made mistakes never fought any battles." The same truth may readily be applied to historians and critics. Lord Wolseley has written an appreciative article on Gen. Lee, which gives an idea of his personal character that is in no way exaggerated, and an estimate of his military capacity very high, it is true, but not higher than that entertained by Lee's own countrymen, by many foreign critics, and, we believe, by not a few of those who fought against him. Lord Wolseley has no doubt made mistakes, but these, like Gen. Walker's errors in his admirable 'History of the Second Army Corps,' are not material enough to affect either the value or the charm of the work. W. ALLAN.

MCDONOGH, MD., April 6, 1887.

CONVENTUAL PASTIMES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In the *Nation* of March 24 a correspondent suggests, apropos of the memoirs of the Princesse de Ligne, that the pranks which she describes as perpetrated within the walls of the Abbaye-aux-Bois may be "the natural result of the ennui of convent life." Of course, I cannot answer for the Princesse de Ligne or the Duchesse de Mazarin and the convent life of their day, but I think I can safely say that nowhere in the world is the spirit of ennui so weak an agent as at the convent school of modern times. Every hour, every minute is provided with its occupation or its recreation, varied and interchanged with admirable judgment, while there is abundant outlet for animal spirits in active out-of-door exercise and indoor games, where every healthy and legitimate form of amusement is freely encouraged. I think if any one had come in upon us children during recreation time at the French convent where I spent the happiest hours of my school life, they might have thought they had struck Bedlam, but they would not have found anything suggestive of ennui. On a rainy day, when there is no prospect of "I spy" or "prisoner's base" or "hare and hounds" in the garden, and between one and two hundred healthy and hard-worked girls are turned loose in the schoolrooms and recreation halls to enjoy themselves to their hearts' content, the result is something that eye hath not seen nor ear heard elsewhere. Shouting, singing, romping, screaming, one band dancing a quadrille to the music of their own voices in one corner, an exciting "tug of war" going on in another, a large party "going to Jerusalem" pell-mell through the halls, a wild scene of confusion in the schoolrooms, girls scrambling over desks and crawling under benches in a frantic game of "hide and seek," besides various small side shows in the way

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of "jump-rope," "grace-sticks," and "class-ball," with perhaps an impromptu charade being acted in some retired spot—all noise that is the mere ebullition of youthful spirits, all honest and genuine fun, is permitted to the full. It is only when an element of roughness or trickery or irreverence begins to show itself that the hand of the law is laid upon us gently but firmly. The nuns themselves often take part in our quieter recreations in their simple, cheery, gracious way.

Outside of recreation time the discipline is exceedingly strict, but most loving, while heart and soul are thrown into the work of making study attractive to us by a most thorough and interesting system of oral instruction. What girl who leads a regular life, with abundance of simple food and active exercise, with early hours, rising at six and going to bed at half-past eight winter and summer, with eight or nine hours daily of study and instruction, diversified with classes in music, painting, dancing, and calisthenics, and three times a day a safety-valve to her spirits in the shape of such recreations as I have described—what healthy-minded girl could find time for ennui? Her inner nature is attracted and sustained by the beauty of the daily devotions—the same, yet ever varying—of the most soul-satisfying of earth's religions. She is surrounded by teachers whose devoted lives and silent example of self-sacrifice, whose kind, indulgent charity and tender motherly care of and interest in herself cannot fail to rouse her warmest admiration and affection. What girl is so constituted that, under these conditions, she could be driven by sheer ennui to the committal of such unmaidenly and irreverent, not to say sacrilegious tricks as were, we will hope, piously invented rather than faithfully described by the pupils of another generation?

My own personal experience of conventual life in France has been in the schools of the Sacré-Cœur and the Assomption, but at one time I had an intimate friendship with a young French girl who was a pupil at the same Abbaye-aux-Bois which the Princesse de Ligne has touched up in so lively a manner. We compared notes over our school experiences, which we found to be much the same. My friend was full of enthusiasm for the nuns of the Abbaye-aux-Bois. She described the austerity of their lives as something appalling to human nature, yet they were cheerful, happy, and affectionate to the highest degree. Perhaps I ought to have said *therefore* rather than *yet*, for all who are familiar with monastic life know well that cheerfulness, happiness, and loving kindness are the sure fruit of that same austerity. My friend was then, in 1879, a vigorous, blooming girl of seventeen, an heiress and a beauty, intelligent, frank, and truthful, full of fun and spirits, yet always graceful and courteous towards her elders and fervent in the practice of her religion. She was certainly a good advertisement for the Abbaye-aux-Bois of to-day. She confided in me her eager desire to become a nun. "In the Abbaye-aux-Bois?" I asked. "Oh, no," she replied, laughing, "I haven't the grace for anything so terribly austere, but I never should be happy in a worldly life, and the idea of marriage makes me shudder; so I think I shall be a Sister of Charity." I asked if her family would approve of such a step. "They approve of the religious life in itself," she answered, "but they don't approve of it *for me*. That is quite another thing! They will oppose any such idea bitterly, and Heaven only knows if I shall have courage to carry it out." I heard of her a great deal in Paris society the next winter, where she was greatly admired for her beauty and accomplishments, but pronounced "cold and reserved" by those who did not know where her heart was. Three years later the courage she feared would fail her, and the grace she had thought wanting, both came to her, and, clad in bridal robes and veil, surrounded by her family, her friends, and the loving instructors of her youth, she consecrated herself to God for ever in this same "terribly austere" Abbaye-aux-Bois.

H.

April 4, 1887.

A DISREPUTABLE REVIEW.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I desire to protest, through your columns, against the unrestrained blackguardism of which the *North American Review* has of late been the vehicle. The "Letters to Prominent Persons," by Arthur Richmond, have all been marked by a noticeable lack of ordinary courtesy, and by personal spite, but the letter in the April number addressed to James Russell Lowell certainly deserves much more severe criticism. It is, without contradiction, one of the most disgraceful and bitter personal attacks ever made upon a political opponent, and it is difficult to realize that a periodical like the *North American Review* can lend its pages to such stuff. The decadence of the *North American* during the past few years has indeed been obvious and sad enough; but what must be the feeling of intelligent and courteous men when they see this once famous review employed as the organ of bitter personal attacks, which would do credit to the lowest partisan sheet? In the interests of decency and our reputation in other countries, let public sentiment frown severely upon such prostitution of high literary position.—Yours respectfully,

S. B. Platner.

Cleveland, O., April 5, 1887.

WHY NOT FORGET BLAINE?

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Paul Janet, I believe, somewhere quotes another professor as saying, in the midst of some religious controversy, "Il ne faut pas lutter contre la religion; il faut l'oublier." Is it not about time for the *Nation* to adopt some such maxim in regard to Mr. Blaine's alleged Presidential aspirations? The frequent mention of that painful subject in the *Nation* is something of a surprise to me. Supposing the Republicans should commit the stupendous folly of nominating Blaine in 1888; why should the friends of Cleveland be sad? Does not the *Nation* confidently expect that Cleveland will be the nominee of the Democratic party? Can the *Nation* have the least anxiety as to the issue of another contest between these antagonists? Why not encourage the Republicans in every possible way to renominate Blaine, and thus make Cleveland's calling and election doubly sure? Or, if that is not the proper thing to do, may we not hope to see Mr. Blaine's name disappear from the columns of the *Nation*, at least until, by accepting the Republican nomination, he becomes once more a public character?

Edward Olson.

Chicago, April 2, 1887.

[Our correspondent seems to forget that our objections to Mr. Blaine's nomination have all along been largely based on his character as a man. Consequently, we consider it a discredit to the country that any party or large body of persons should in any manner express their belief in his fitness for a great public office. We oppose his nomination not simply because we wish to keep him out of the White House, but because we think he ought not, with his record, to be in public life at all.—Ed. Nation.]

THE NEW JERSEY CHANCELLORSHIP.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The comment of the *Nation* last week voices, though in more temperate terms than most of us would use, the indignation felt in all parts of our State at Gov. Green's refusal to reappoint Chancellor Runyon, and the amazement, on such refusal, that he should pass by our many able, deeply-versed equity lawyers to hunt up one for Chancellor comparatively unknown, whose chief practice has been in the criminal courts as prosecutor and judge.

Because Chancellor Runyon refused to prostitute his great office to partisan ends, the blighting influence of Abbettism struck him down. The loss is the State's, not his. He can readily earn at the bar a larger income than he received as Chancellor, and with less labor.

This action of Gov. Green is but another nail in the coffin of an appointive judiciary. No party convention would have dared to refuse a renomination to such a judge as Chancellor Runyon. When the appointment of judges is used as patronage parcelled out in advance of nomination by the candidate for Governor, all that is claimed for an appointive judiciary is gone; but when, as in this case, it is used simply as a weapon in a factional fight, the viciousness of the method is so startlingly shown as but to hasten its doom. In an election by the people the weight of a proper public sentiment can be brought to bear on nominating conventions, and if it fail in one, it is not likely to in the other. The voter has at least the choice of one of two candidates. In an appointment by the Governor, the case of Chancellor Runyon shows that the wish, though almost universally expressed, of all most interested is powerless even to retain an upright, able, and popular judge.

H.

Camden, N. J., April 11, 1887.

ARCHÆOLOGY AT ATHENS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The Greek Archæological Society is making thorough work of the excavations on the Acropolis. The soil has been carefully removed down to the natural rock over the entire northern half of the hill, and, after every stone and potsherd has been examined, the débris is thrown over the wall. The area between the Erechtheum and the Parthenon now shows the naked foundation walls of Dörpfeld's pre-Persic temple. The east wall of the Parthenon crepidoma is exposed to the light to the depth of thirty feet, where the Acropolis rock falls away to the south at an angle of forty-five degrees. The lower courses of this substructure are entirely free from curvature.

Three important discoveries have been made this month at the angle of the north wall close by the Erechtheum: (1) under a large stone ten feet below the surface of the ground an archaic statue, surpassed by only one other in the Acropolis Museum in size and antiquity; (2) a peculiar flat bronze statuette with both sides finished, and bearing the attributes of Athene, of beautiful workmanship; (3) a fragment of an inscription belonging to the early part of the fourth century B. C., with the name of Æschylus as author, Xenocles as choregus, and [Philo]cles as archon—confirming the Scholiast's accuracy in dating the production of the "Agamemnon." The uncovering of the back of the drums which are built into the north wall reveals unmistakable signs of haste in the construction of the wall at this part.

The Greek Society has also done valuable work the past autumn in laying bare the Amphiareion and theatre at Oropus. The proscenium of the theatre, rising from the clay floor of the orchestra, consists of engaged Doric columns, the intercolumniations of which were filled with stone slabs. It was pierced by a single door in the centre, and finished by an entablature supported by projecting brackets. The architectural

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evidence all goes to show that the drama was here performed both by actors and chorus on the floor of the orchestra, between which and the upper scene structure no external means of passage were provided.

The explorations on the Acropolis of Mycenæ have resulted in the discovery of a series of walls similar in plan and construction to those of Tiryns.

At Volo, the beehive tomb has been recently excavated, the construction and contents of which are found to be similar to those of the tomb at Menidi. At Pagasæ and Demetrias Hellenistic walls have also been lately found.

Besides continuing work in these places during the summer, the Greek Archæological Society plan to resume operations at Eleusis and Epidaurus.

The French School has utilized the presence of a man-of-war in the Peiræus harbor by employing its crew in the excavations at Eetioneia, the object of which is the discovery of the temple of Aphrodite. The work of the French at Delphi cannot begin until the legal difficulties of expropriation have been settled, involving many months' delay.

The German School has lately sunk some trenches in the public land about the Theseum, seeking for evidences of the location of the Agora in that region. The work was unavailing, however, except as it showed the great depth of soil which has accumulated on the ancient level between the Pnyx and the Areopagus.

The English School has been examining the foundations of the Olympieum. There are evidences that the front colonnade consisted of eight columns instead of ten, a discovery which throws light on Vitruvius's allusion, "Athenis octastylon templo Olympio." About seven feet below the floor of the temple of Zeus erected by Antiochus the pavement of the Peisistratus structure has been discovered this month.

The American School is about to begin the work of excavating at the theatre of Sikyon. The corner-stone of the school was laid March 12 in the presence of many American, Greek, English, and German scholars, residing or visiting in Athens, and members of their families. Prof. Martin L. D'Ooge, the present Director, after describing the history and purpcses of the school, introduced Drs. Petersen and Leaf, who spoke for the German and British schools respectively. The ceremony was performed by our Minister to Greece, Servia, and Rumania, Mr. Walker Fearn, to whose hearty interest in the enterprise, as well as his personal relations with the Greek Government, the acquisition of the land and extensive municipal improvements in its vicinity are largely due. Mr. Fearn's speech of acknowledgment, addressed to the King of Greece and his ministers, was responded to by Mr. Dra gou mis, Secretary of State, who dwelt on the cordial friendship existing between the two countries, the flags of which were floating side by side above his head. W. L. C.

ATHENS, March 21, 1887.

TRANSFORMATION OF NAMES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Another instance of singular transformation of names is given in the *Historical Magazine* (ii, 181) for June, 1858. It is as follows:

"A village was commenced some years ago on land belonging to Mr. Shepherd, near the Governor's then residence, and, in compliment to the proprietor, called *Shepherd-ville*. This was literally translated by the French into 'Bergerville.' The English next seized on this latter name, and converted it into *Beggarville*, which again is now turned back into French and called *Village des Quêteurs!* A vile calumny, adds M. Ferland, which it will be difficult to explain in a century hence."—*Notes sur les Registres de Quebec*, p. 54.

SAMUEL A. GREEN.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOSTON, April 9, 1887.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: For those of your readers who understand German a few striking instances of transformation of our German family names may be of some interest. A well-known German name is *Rollfuss*, the final syllable of which seems to be equivalent to *Fuss* (foot); but this name is derived from *Rolf* (*Rudolf*); for in the times when German names used either to be translated into Latin or, at least, to take a Latin ending, *Rolf* became *Rolfus*. Later on, when the origin was forgotten, this was changed to *Rollfuss*. Likewise *Parvus*, translated from the German name *Klein* (Little) became *Barfuss* (Barefoot). In certain parts of Germany I have heard the ugly name *Kuhstoss* (Cow-kick), which seems to me to be a disfigurement of the Latin *Custos*. The forefathers of Mr. Kuhstoss very probably had the name of *Wächter* (Watchman). But still more amusing is the history of the name *Pflaumbaum* (Plum-tree). The bearer of that name, a gentleman dwelling in a well-known commercial town of North Germany, some time ago applied for leave to change his name to *Blei* (Lead). He referred to the chronicle of his family, which proved that one of his ancestors, named *Blei*, chose to have the Latin translation of his name *Plumbum*. To his descendants, who had no knowledge of the Latin language, Plumbum sounded like the low German *Plumbôm*, which in high German is *Pflaumbaum*.—Yours respectfully, RUDOLF TOMBO, Ph. D.

113 EAST 110TH ST., NEW YORK, April 11, 1887.

Notes.

A POSTHUMOUS insurance for great men against incompetent or disreputable biographers would cheer many a deathbed. Every admirer of Edwin M. Stanton, for example, must regret that his life is to be written by George C. Gorham, formerly Secretary of the United States Senate. We are bound to add, though we do so with regret, that Mr. Stanton's family have selected or given authority to Mr. Gorham. This is not the case with the Life of Beecher in preparation by Joseph Howard, jr. Mr. Beecher's wife, son, and son-in-law have undertaken the only biography which will have the sanction of the family. It will be published by Charles L. Webster & Co.

'Mosby's War Reminiscences, and Stuart's Cavalry Campaigns,' by John S. Mosby, is announced by Geo. A. Jones & Co., Boston.

D. Lothrop & Co. have in press a translation of De Vogüé's 'Russian Novelists'; and 'Life among the Germans,' by an American girl student.

'Woodland Tales,' by the author of the 'Buchholz Family'; and 'Reminiscences of a Grandfather; or, the Recent Past Viewed from a Southern Standpoint,' by Richard Hooker Wilmer, Bishop of Alabama (whose dedication is to Jefferson Davis), will shortly be issued by Thomas Whittaker.

Ticknor & Co. announce for publication on April 16 'Ancient Legends, Mystic Charms, and Superstitions of Ireland,' by Lady Wilde ("Speranza"), with a chapter on the ancient races of Ireland, by the late Sir William Wilde, in two volumes.

Charles Scribner's Sons have in press 'Word-Studies in the New Testament,' by Dr. Marvin R. Vincent; and 'In Ole Virginia,' by Thomas Nelson Page. The American edition of the 'Life and Writings of Anne Gilchrist,' by her son, will bear the imprint of Scribner & Welford.

'A Romance of Providence; being the History of the Church of the Strangers,' by its pastor, the Rev. Chas. F. Deems, will be published by Wilbur B. Ketcham.

If the stale anecdotes out of books, the weak satire of the medical profession, the overdone invalidism, and the catalogue of a model library *à la* the best hundred books, had been left out of 'A Club of One' (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), there would have remained some few pages of commonplace observation on trivial matters. The "Club" consisted, it seems, of One; it was an excellent limit. We find nothing else in the volume that calls for special commendation.

'Notes on the New York Law of Life Insurance,' by Charles B. Alexander (Baker, Voorhis & Co.), is the modest and accurate title of a thin volume, of a little over a hundred pages of text, which will be useful to any one who wishes to know the main points of the law of New York on the subject named. It does not pretend to be a formal treatise upon the subject.

Mr. J. C. Summers's 'Who Won?' is a handy official record of the yachting season of 1886. It contains much other pertinent information in regard to this form of sport, like the "Chronology," which goes back to 1844, when the New York Yacht Club was formed; or like the tide-tables, or the signal code, or the weather-service's mnemonic rhymes, etc. There is an "indotype" of the *Mayflower*, and colored flags in great variety. The little volume is prettily printed.

We observe no other changes in the new edition of Loomis's 'Index Guide to Travel and Art Study in Europe' (Scribners) than the admission of advertisements—not puffs—at the end, and the replacing of two small maps of London and Paris by larger folding ones. To the excellence of this illustrated work we have frequently called attention during the past five years.

'Professor Johnny,' by "Jak" (Crowell & Co.) is one of that excellent class of stories for boys which do not depend upon exciting incidents for their interest. The greater part of the book is taken up with the description of the doings of children at the seashore, in the course of which the author manages to introduce considerable information about the elements of chemistry.

Indexes multiply, and indeed there cannot well be too many of them—"'scusin'" (as they say down South) the triple index to (the old) *Scribner's* and the *Century* (1870-85), where one alphabet should have unlocked the thirty volumes. The Leonard Scott Publication Co., Philadelphia, began with January a Quarterly Index to their reprints of the *Contemporary*, *Nineteenth Century*, *Fortnightly*, *Blackwood*, *Edinburgh*, *Scottish*, *Quarterly*, and *Westminster*, and also to their own publication, *Shakespeariana*. This is a real service, and we cannot doubt that it will be supported. The entries are by subject, with classifications, as, Art, Biography, Books Reviewed, Irish Question, etc. The authors' names are given where they can be, with the month, volume, and page of the periodical in parallel columns.

Mr. J. H. Hickcox's 'Catalogue of Government Publications' (Washington, 906 M St.) has, for want of adequate support, not been issued monthly of late. The thick No. 7-12 of vol. ii is before us, with index and supplement—the latter giving the titles of all the public acts passed at the second session of the Forty-ninth Congress. Mr. Hickcox states that 34,486,926 copies of all publications were printed during the fiscal year 1885-86, at an average cost (engraving and binding included) of 3 cents per copy. In this department of Congressional activity, as in Nature, enough cannot be had without too much; but Mr. Hickcox justly remarks that the wasteful excess

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of Government printing is partly the result of ignorance of the probable demand. The law permits advance orders for public documents at a fixed price, but makes no provision for informing the public as to the documents about to be issued. Mr. Hickcox purposes to make such announcement a new feature of his Catalogue, and feels justified at the same time in enlarging his subscription price to $5. We sincerely hope he will obtain the requisite support.

In the April number of the *Book Buyer* Mr. Laurence Hutton begins a series of papers on "extra-illustrating"—Grangerizing, as it is technically termed, after the author of the 'Bibliographical History.' These pleasant essays will be amply illustrated.

In the April *New Englander* a general account is given of the late Wilhelm Scherer's library, which has been purchased by Adelbert College of Western Reserve University, at Cleveland, O. It is very diversified, but is particularly strong in comparative and Germanic philology; phonetics; German and French literature; Goethe literature; history, and philosophy.

In the *Overland Monthly* for April one may read a long and appreciative notice of the late Prof. E. R. Sill, a frequent contributor to this magazine, as he was an occasional writer for the *Nation*. His Pacific Coast friendships appear to have been very strong and enduring. Many examples of his verse are cited in the paper in question.

A very fair inquiry into the ownership of a second folio of Shakspere owned by Mr. C. F. Gunther, Chicago, and having pasted on a flyleaf a seeming autograph of the dramatist, is made in *Shakespeariana* for April, by Mr. E. P. Vining. The genuineness of the autograph is left undecided.

The *Revue Internationale* for February 25 contains the fourth instalment of the extracts it is publishing from the 'Journal intime' of Benjamin Constant. This number is doubly interesting—first, for what it reveals concerning his novel of 'Adolphe,' and secondly for the continuation of the story of his relations with Mme. de Staël, constantly becoming more and more tempestuous. It is the story told over again of Voltaire and the Marquise du Châtelet, of Alfred de Musset and George Sand, of Liszt and the Comtesse d'Agoult; but told at the moment by one of the two actors, with all the fire and passion of a very present irritation. Quite as vivid and dramatic as these volcanic ruptures and appeasements are the passages concerning Mme. Dutertre, becoming more frequent and more ardent throughout the number, and finally culminating in a secret marriage, May 9, 1807. This is the date now given in a foot-note, but it was formerly given, apparently by Constant himself, as June 5, 1808. The question of dates, however, and even of the authenticity of certain previously published memoranda of Benjamin Constant for the years immediately following the close of the present extracts, is a very complicated one, and will add greatly to the interest of that part of the journal in which Mme. Récamier is about to appear.

A new review is announced which will interest Romance philologists. It will be called the *Revue des Patois Gallo-Romans*, and will be under the direction of M. J. Gilleron and the Abbé Rousselot. It promises also to appeal to the Folklorists by publishing popular tales, songs, and proverbs collected within the limits of ancient Gaul and of the past and present French colonies where there may be traces of French dialects or traditions. This last is a comparatively unexplored field.

The last number of *Petermann's Mitteilungen* contains an account by Dr. Plagemann of the mountain basin of the river Cachapoal in Chili, and an interesting description of a recent journey to the district of Fayum in Egypt, by R. Buchta. On the northern shore of the lake Birket el Kerun, regarded by most geographers as the ancient Moeris, he visited the extensive ruins of a Roman city. In an immense mound of fragments of pottery, there were numerous pieces of vases with a superb turquoise blue glaze, and very white glass richly enamelled. In a supplementary number is given an account of a journey in the mountains of Daghestan, by Dr. Radde of Tiflis. It has very full details as to the flora and ornithology of this little-known province, as well as entertaining descriptions of the village life of the hardy and unruly Lesghians.

Sir Francis de Winton, Administrator-General of the Congo Free State from 1884 to 1886, describes, in the *Scottish Geographical Magazine* for March, a curious religious and social revolution among the Balubas, a tribe living on one of the southern tributaries of the Congo. They have given up their fetish worship, and, in order to put a stop to the excessive drinking of palm-juice wine which accompanied their religious rites, they have cut down all their palm trees. Drunkenness and theft have been made capital crimes, and "the sole punishment" of the country is "the smoking of hemp, the culprits under the sentence of death being compelled to smoke it until they dropped."

There has just been published in Stockholm the first part of a work entitled 'Three Years on the Congo,' descriptive of the part taken by the Swedes in the founding of the new State, thirty-three having been officers of the various stations in addition to missionaries and travellers. Of the three authors, one, Mr. Gleerup, has just returned to Europe after crossing the continent from west to east in seven months. So great an interest has been awakened in Sweden in African colonization that an expedition has been organized to acquire territory in some yet unappropriated part of the country south of the desert of Sahara. The expedition, which will start from the Cameroons, is expected to be absent about a year, and will include several scientific men.

Phonetische Studien is the title of Wilhelm Vietor's new journal of scientific and practical phonetics, with contributions in English, German, and French (Marburg; New York: Westermann).

We have received from Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago, a "new official railroad map" of the United States and Canada, folded in covers; and a new edition of their Commercial Map of the same countries, likewise folded, but on a larger scale, viz., fifty-five miles to the inch. The latter exhibits counties and railroad stations as well as most of the principal towns to a remarkable degree of fulness.

Somewhat more than a year ago we spoke of the several series of *Indici e Cataloghi* begun to be issued by the Italian Ministry of Public Instruction, the fourth being the Palatine Codices of the Royal National Central Library of Florence, of which Dr. D. Chilovi is prefect. This has been edited upon the list already published by Palermo in his 'I Manoscritti Palatini di Firenze ordinati ed esposti' (1853-1868), by Prof. Adolfo Bartoli, who has had occasion to repair the omissions and errors of his predecessor in describing these manuscripts anew. They number 488 in all, and five instalments only bring us to No. 252. It is no mean pleasure merely to glance at the abstracts, in which an abrupt line launches the mind upon a sea of speculation as to what may follow in the text, or what go before. Thus, the legend of St. Apollonius (Palat. 38) begins: "Uno Santo padre, il quale si chiamò appollonio e stava in thebaida"; and a homily of St. John Chrysostom's (22) ends: "Giammai non potranno nuocere a colui el quale da se medesimo non è offeso." Especially is the imagination free in the case of the sonnets and other verse signalized by their first lines, like the "Ongni barbuto non è degli Armini," of Bindo Bonichi. There are numerous copies of the rhymes of Petrarch and of Dante, of Lorenzo de' Medici, etc. The sixth series is complete in a single *fascicolo:* it is a list of the political journals of the peninsula which the press law compels to be deposited in the National Library—"raccolta importantissima di fonti non ispregevoli per la storia generale e particolare." In the seventh series is begun a catalogue of the valuable Codici Panciatichiani, never before undertaken. It starts off with Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio.

M. Alcide Darras, *docteur en droit*, has just published a bulky work, 'Du Droit des Auteurs et des Artistes dans les rapports internationaux' (Paris: Arthur Rousseau; New York: F. W. Christern). This is a complete statement of the present condition of international copyright throughout the civilized world. A glance through its pages will suffice to show that in the recognition of authors' rights the United States lags far behind nations which we are wont to look down on as stagnant and effete. Perhaps the most profitable passage of M. Darras's book just now for us Americans is the account of the copyright relations of France and Belgium. For a long time Belgium was to France much as the United States is now to Great Britain—with the important exception that Belgium had very few authors of her own, and had therefore to rely on France for her literature. In spite of trade protests, Belgium at last signed a treaty with France in 1852: and the evidence is now abundant that the Belgian trade has not suffered in any way by the recognition of the French author's rights and by the abolition of pirating, but that it has, on the contrary, prospered under the new state of affairs.

W. R. Jenkins, New York, has added 'La Belle-Nivernaise,' by Alphonse Daudet, to his very pretty collection of "Contes choisis." It will interest the young as being the story of an old boat and its crew, the crew being one man with a wooden leg. It may interest the old as having something of Daudet's manner, mitigated for the occasion. When it is considered that 'La Belle-Nivernaise' was published just before Christmas in Paris for ten francs, and that it is now offered for 25 cents, the American public may be said to be promptly and cheaply served.

In the *Nation* of March 24 we noticed the first volume of the new edition of Pascal's complete works, to be edited by Prosper Faugère. This veteran of Pascal literature has just died at the age of seventy-six. He made his début in letters in 1835, with an essay on the life of La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt, and later obtained the highest academic honors by papers on L'Hôpital, Gerson, and Pascal. In 1844 he published what may be considered as the *editio princeps* of the 'Pensées,' thanks to his judicious and honest use of the original manuscript. He also published the letters of Pascal's two sisters and those of his niece, besides an edition of the memoirs of Madame Roland, and the letters of La Mère Agnès (Arnauld) of Port-Royal. He was also the author of various occasional pamphlets of a semi-political character, and a contributor to the *Temps* and the *Correspondant*.

Nadson, who died on the 29th of January, was the most sympathetic and gifted of the young Russian poets. He began writing at the age of nine. His poems, when first published in the newspapers, became very popular among the mass of readers, after having been joyfully welcomed by a small private circle, and on their appearance in book form he became a great favorite. His mother was descended from some legendary Tatar khan; he suspected his grand-

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father or great-grandfather (as he says in an autobiography, prepared a couple of years ago) to have been a Jew. Ill health forced him to leave the army in 1884, and seek the shores of the Mediterranean and the Crimea, after having vainly tried to fill the post of teacher in a village school and secretary to a journal. He was suspected of feigning ill health and melancholy for the sake of art, and the attacks upon him were numerous and savage, the last having appeared only three days before his death. He was born in 1862, and had just passed his twenty-fourth birthday at the time of his death.

The publication of Turgeneff's letters to P. V. Annenkoff, while it does not materially supplement the volume issued in 1885 by the Society for Aiding Needy Authors, sets him in a somewhat different light. His judgments of literary productions are almost invariably unfavorable, which is not the case in the volume referred to. He is almost always in need of money, and a great part of his correspondence seems to have been devoted to this subject. Of his own work he speaks occasionally, though not at length. Of 'Fathers and Sons' he writes in 1862: "I can only say that I stand in utter amazement at its effect. It is not that I rejoice—there is nothing in particular to rejoice at—but for the first time I am seriously pleased with my work, although I have a feeling that I stand on one side, and that some one else, who had to do it, and into whose hands I and my romance fell, dashed it off." "Trebly dyed nonsense" is the term which he applies to Victor Hugo's 'Travailleurs de la Mer.' When reading Count Tolstoi's 'War and Peace,' his comment is: "Impossible, impossible, impossible!" (as nearly as the word can be rendered). His meaning is explained in another letter. He objects to "the monotonous harping on the same identical sensations, such as, 'Am I, or am I not, a coward?'" and the psychology in general, while admitting that the history—the focus—is admirable, and that all the military and social descriptions are of the first order. "Such another master as Tolstoi does not exist among us," he says.

—The two issues of the 'American Catalogue are, it is well known, to be continued at five-yearly intervals from 1884. Meantime the book trade has naturally desired something more convenient than the bound volumes of the *Publishers' Weekly*, or than the collection of catalogues known as the 'Publishers' Trade-List Annual.' An experiment has therefore been made which is interesting, first of all, on the mechanical side. The scheme of 'The Annual American Catalogue, 1886,' involved an alphabetical arrangement by authors of all the book entries in the *Publishers' Weekly* during the year in question, with full titles and descriptive notes (sometimes extracts from critical notices). To reset these would have cost more than could be recovered by sales, and the ingenious device was resorted to of deftly pasting the entries together in their new order, in double columns corresponding to a page of the *Weekly*, and obtaining a plate from these by means of photography. We should add that a further economy was attained by printing direct from the hardened gelatine plate, thus dispensing with metal. The result is of course inferior to the ordinary press work, but much less so than might have been expected; and while continuous reading would not be agreeable to the eye, for reference the print is distinct enough. So much for the first half of the Catalogue. Mr. Bowker was not content to stop there, but has added an index by author, title, and subject, thus meeting every want of the bookseller. This portion had to be set anew. The publishers themselves contribute lists of their issues for 1886. Whether the 'American Annual Catalogue' for 1887 will ever appear, depends on the reception given to this forerunner. The trade can hardly be so indifferent to its own advantage, or to the disinterestedness of the compilers and publishers, as to make this first volume unremunerative.

—Mr. Edward Atkinson continues his popular economical papers in the April *Century* by putting and answering the question, How much more would the laborers get if they should take all the profits? He estimates that they now obtain nine parts in ten of the entire product of the country, while of this last tenth a considerable portion also eventually goes to them. He charges a very large part of the present discontent to a misuse of the figures of the census of 1880, and himself passes some noticeable criticisms upon these figures as they stand, independently of any ignorant handling of them. At the end of his analysis he makes the points that the money value of what the laborers are straining for is much smaller than is supposed by them, and that the prospective usefulness of this sum by its application to production is greater, when left in the hands of the capitalists, than would be the case if it were dispersed among the laborers. The effectiveness of capital under the present rules of distribution brings about that increase of production which is the real gain and underlies the advance of the working classes. The position is stated with much force, but with too little clearness for the ordinary reader; the large class of those who are interested, but only slightly familiar with the general subject, are the writer's proper audience. He expresses his views of the present prosperity of the country in broad terms; never has there been, he says, so large a product at so low a cost relative to the investment, so low a rate of profit on capital maintaining activity, so high a rate of wages in proportion to the hours, a dollar that would buy so much; and, finally, never has the workman received so large a share of the total product. In view of all this, he concludes that "the disturbers of labor have about exhausted their temporary power of mischief," and that the "organizations" are "now assuming their true and beneficent function, to wit: that of schools of inquiry." This last, certainly, must be set down as optimistic.

— The *English Illustrated Magazine* for April (Macmillan) contains some original Sheridan papers, which were saved at the time of the Drury Lane fire in 1809, and, after remaining for sixty years unknown, are now first published. The new matter, which is a selection from the whole mass, consists of letters written to Sheridan by his wife, from the time of their secret marriage in France in 1772 to her death in 1792. Many of them are love letters, and one reads the story of the romantic attachment of the young lovers, and of their hard-hearted parents' persecution and intrigue to prevent their union, as if it were a sentimental novel of that time. It is a delightful exhibition of natural feeling, in a style that has become to us as artificial as the opera, and revives the dead past most dramatically. The letters written in the latter portion of their wedded life are more important for Sheridan's memory, as their general mood of confidence and affection puts an end to the statement that he had alienated her heart and made her miserable by his irregularities. The correspondence will light up future biographies. A memorandum of Sheridan's, also given, clears up somewhat the mystery of his purchase of Drury Lane of Garrick and Lacy. It has to do only with the affair with Lacy, but it seems that Garrick was the holder of the large mortgage on his partner's moiety and let it remain, and that the sale was practically forced and the price exorbitant. The share of Garrick as friend and adviser in this transaction lends more color to the old report, discredited by Moore, that he stood behind Sheridan in the first instance and made the terms easy to be met. The account of the second purchase is minutely rendered, with some comments by Sheridan. The whole article is an admirable piece of biography, and shows its hero in an attractive light, without making either a caricature or an idol of him.

—The *Overland Monthly* for March has a timely and interesting memorial of Virgil Williams, one of the pioneers of art in California. It is by a deaf and dumb pupil of Williams, and is mainly a collection of the notes of instruction, written in order that the deaf mute might read. Mr. Williams's life was passed in what is in the main an excellent milieu for an artist who has acquired a system and mastered the indispensable technique, but a bad one for a beginner, viz., Rome. In the old days much more than now, the Eternal City attracted more than any other locality the artists of all countries. One did not have much opportunity to learn what was most important to learn, viz., sound technical methods, but the city was most picturesque in its ensemble, surrounded with material which seemed to have grown up by the rules of art on purpose to make pictures, and the galleries were full of works by the old masters which were considered the types that all young artists must follow. But Rome was especially attractive to the speculative painters, men who dreamed much and thought much about art in the abstract, and occasionally one met men who, never having painted a tolerable picture, had their heads full of the philosophy of art. This intercourse made a kind of education of which the Caffè Greco was the university, and there in the winter evenings general assembly was held for the benefit of who would participate. Like many American artists of that day, Williams passed those years of his life when, if ever, a man is learning a method, in Rome, where no method could be learned; and, like most American artists of his day, he had a good theoretical idea of art without ever attaining a high position as a painter. His ideas, as recorded by his deaf-mute pupil, have now and then the stamp of his school in incisive clearness. There is a note on Fortuny which was prophetic. "When I said that Mr. Moore was most enthusiastic about Fortuny, saying that he was the greatest painter of all ages, Mr. Williams wrote out: 'I am aware of that, but I think the school of Fortuny is a fashion.'" This is so true that to-day even in Rome, where Fortuny reigned supreme, his influence has entirely gone—he is out of fashion. Many of Williams's sayings will be recognized by all who are to the manner born as sound maxims of art: "No one with an artistic temperament but experiences periods of great dejection and corresponding elation—we must take the bitter with the sweet. If the ecstasy of drunkenness were not followed by reaction and pain, the whole world [the whole world that has the artistic temperament] would be continually and gloriously drunk." "That book ['Ruskin on Painting'] is very pleasant reading for young ladies, but you will get no practical benefit from it. The author is a charming descriptive writer, but a conceited and prejudiced old ass—he is in art what Carlyle was in literature—both of them captious, arrogant, prejudiced, egotistical, and clever men." "You (I was three months working at Venus of Milo [*sic*]) have one thing to congratulate yourself on, that you have learned to love this Venus. It is only the artist who really appreciates her beauties. It is a custom among dilettanti to gush over her, but they only follow the lead of artists." But, as if to enjoin due caution in regard to the judgments of a man whose intellectual value was mainly that acquired from his association, he couples with just recommendation of the 'Thoughts on Art' of Hamerton, Jar-

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ves's 'Lectures on Grecian Art'—books which, so far as first-hand and secure opinion on art are concerned, are the antipodes of art literature.

—*Les Lettres et les Arts* (Paris: Boussod, Valadon et Cie.; New York: Charles Scribner's Sons) offers a new aspect to its readers with every fresh issue. This time it is more novel than usual. The one serious article of the number for March is as fantastic, at least in its suggestions, as a very serious writer could well make a very serious subject. It is "Le Philosophe Érasme," by M. Jules Zeller of the Institute, the historian and critic, and it continues to a certain extent another article by him which appeared in the *revue* for April, 1886, "La Renaissance en Allemagne." The illustrations are all after original engravings by Hans Holbein, even the ornamental letters at the beginning of paragraphs being from the alphabet of his "Dance of Death." Some pages of music, "Pantomime," by Victorin Joncières, and a sonnet and landscape, both by Lansyer the artist, precede and follow this article, separating it from the rest of the contents of the number, which is entirely fiction, contrary to the custom of the *revue*. Of this, by far the best contribution is the first part of a story by M. Paul Perret, "Mademoiselle de Bardelys," one of the very few returns to the historical romance of the first half of the century that have been made in recent years, and a very successful attempt to combine the interest of the heroic adventures of the past school with the depth of sentiment of the present. The style is that of a few writers among the *impressionistes*, but not carried to any offensive excess; and the illustrations, of which there are many, are impressionist also in the extreme, but they are certainly effective. They give the idea of a richness and vividness of coloring, and an intensity and depth of expression, which are surprising when the really dim colors and vague outlines are carefully observed. Very unlike these, but in another way quite as fantastic, is the frontispiece, a portrait in water-colors, by Boutet de Monvel, of Mlle. Hélène de Rothschild, a little girl four or five years old, in which this artist's curious combination of excessive realism with excessive conventionality is conspicuous. Nothing more unreal as a work of art could be produced, and yet the little childish face in the midst of it all has an almost startling effect of life and reality.

—The 'Antiquities of the Minusinsk Museum: Relics of the Age of Metals,' by D. Klementz (Tomsk, 1884), and an Atlas of the same (1886), both published by Ivan Kuznetzoff, are books of interest to archæologists. The Minusinsk Museum has only been in existence for about ten years, although the district of Western Siberia in which it is situated has long been an object of curiosity to scientific men, archæologists, and naturalists, on account of its natural features and the interesting remains of antiquity found there. A brief account of the founding of the Museum is given by Mr. Martyanoff. At first, as the funds were inadequate, there was no thought of collecting local antiquities, but during the Museum's first year of existence a gift in that department from Mr. Kuznetzoff was followed by others, so that the authorities felt it to be their duty to go on. In the course of six years, only 600 rubles have been expended in the acquisition of antiquities, yet the archæological section now contains 3,630 articles, principally of copper, bronze, gold, silver, and iron. The catalogue before us, which contains a topographical chart of the valley of the Yenisei, confines itself to descriptions of the plates, an account of the archæological remains of the district from personal observations, sundry facts about the peoples who anciently inhabited the Minusinsk region, etc. "The Upper Yenisei," Mr. Martyanoff says, "is separated from that great source of the culture of antiquity, China, by a long series of steppes and nomad settlements. The ruins which have descended to us from the ancient inhabitants of the Minusinsk region consist, (1) of funeral mounds, scattered all over the southern part of the Yenisei Government, North Mongolia, the Altai region, and West Siberia; (2) of the remains of ancient constructions, earthen walls, the ruined remains of irrigating canals, stone carvings, statues, inscribed stones, cliff rock faces covered with drawings and inscriptions, abandoned excavations and mines. In addition to these, ancient iron, gold, silver, bronze, and stone implements are constantly being turned up in agricultural operations and in the river drift, all over the southern part of the Yenisei Government. In one word, there are here rich treasures of archæology, which remain almost completely unknown up to the present day." Mr. Kuznetzoff gives his own impressions of some of these, amplifying the description and classification of the tumuli given by Radloff, and says that studies on the subject have been very fragmentary and insufficient. He also furnishes a description of the opening of these tumuli, mines, and ruins, and of the objects found in them, as well as of statues, miscellaneous articles, and pictures. The catalogue contains a list of metal objects, supplemented by a description of some of clay, bone, etc., with the places where they were found, and exact measurements both outside and in. This is the first scientific work of the sort to make its appearance in Siberia.

ROBERT E. LEE.—I.

Memoirs of Robert E. Lee. His Military and Personal History, etc. By A. L. Long, formerly military secretary to Gen. Lee, afterwards Brig.-Gen. and Chief of Artillery, Second Corps, Army of Northern Virginia; together with incidents relating to his private life subsequent to the war, collected and edited with the assistance of Marcus J. Wright, formerly Brig.-Gen. Army of Tennessee, and agent of the United States for the collection of Confederate Records. Illustrated 8vo, pp. 707. New York: J. M. Stoddart & Co. 1887.

SEVERAL volumes of Memoirs of Gen. Lee, either military or personal, have been written, but none of them can be said to be fully authoritative. The present one has certain advantages over most of those that have preceded it. Its writer, Gen. Long, as military secretary to Lee at the beginning of his career in the Confederate armies, had some positive advantages in his intimate relations with his chief, and has been able to give many incidents illustrating his personal character and habits of mind which are both interesting and valuable. It is going rather far, however, to claim, as the publishers do, that it is in substance a "consummation" of Lee's own purpose to write his autobiography. The book is still a compilation, in which the work of others has been freely used, though the material is welded together so as to make a fairly smooth-flowing narrative. The authoritative biography of Lee is yet to be written, and it has been stated that Col. Charles Marshall, the General's last military secretary, is selected by the family for the task. The greatest value of Gen. Long's book is found in the reminiscences of his personal association with Lee, and in his reports of the conduct and opinions of his chief as they were seen and heard by himself. The narrative of Lee's early life and his service in the army of the United States prior to the civil war is also more full than usual, and therefore more acceptable.

It is probably impossible for any writer, whether a Northern or a Southern man, to make an impartial estimate of Robert E. Lee's character as a man or as a soldier. The earnest Union man cannot wholly ignore the question of duty to the national Government owed by its military officers in 1861; and his mind refuses assent to the proposition that to throw off the uniform and take arms against the flag under which he had been educated and served as a soldier, involved no moral wrong. The earnest Confederate, on the other hand, exaggerates the preëminence of his hero, and hardly stops short of apotheosis in his praises. The time will doubtless come when the characters of our civil war will be analyzed with as impartial a criticism as that with which we now deal with the Commonwealth men and the Royalists of the seventeenth century, and with as little prejudice based upon sympathy or antipathy; but it is not yet. We owe it to our intellectual self-respect to make the sincere effort to be fair in our judgments and to put off our prejudices, but we also owe it to candor to admit that complete success in the effort is hardly possible.

When the civil war opened, Robert E. Lee was fifty-four years old, and Lieutenant-Colonel in the army. He was already beyond the age which was regarded as best fitted for command in the field, for the domination of ideas derived from Napoleonic history was then complete in our army, and men would have laughed at the idea of a campaign like the Franco-Prussian one, in which hardly a single general officer of either army was much less than sixty. But Lee was a man of most temperate life and robust body, and was younger than most men of his years. His only field service had been in the Mexican war, and almost the whole of his military life had been spent in duty as an engineer. His mind was sound and well-balanced, his personal character was pure, he was a sincerely religious man, dignified and reticent. The general testimony of those who knew him best would seem to make his reputation as an officer a solid and trustworthy one more than one of brilliancy or what is called genius. His family descent and his marriage into the Custis family gave him consideration and influence, as they naturally might, and jealousy might easily argue that he owed no small part of his standing and prestige to such accidents of fortune. The truth, however, seems to be that he deserved all the reputation he had, and that those who came nearest to him were most impressed with his worthiness and fitness for larger responsibilities than any he had borne. Gen. Scott's partiality for him was well known, and designated him without exception as the fittest man to succeed himself in the chief command of the army.

Arlington, the inheritance of Mrs. Lee and the home of Lee and his family, was in what had been the District of Columbia till the part south of the Potomac was ceded back to Virginia, and it would be hard to find a man who might more properly be considered a citizen of the United States rather than a citizen of any State. His life-long service in the army, his indirect connection with Washington's family, his home at the national capital, all seemed to separate him from local ties and bind him to the whole country.

In the case of Gen. Scott, himself a Virginian, somewhat similar circumstances made friend and foe feel, as he felt himself, that no State had any claim upon him; he belonged to the United States. There was, however, this difference, that Scott had no children, while Lee had a large family of sons and daughters, some of whom were in early manhood and womanhood when their father had to make his momentous decision. That this may have been, nay, that it probably was, the turning-weight in

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the balance, may be fairly concluded from Lee's own words. Social influences were almost omnipotent in the South in those days, and the young of both sexes far outran their elders in making secession sentiments the test of social standing. A man of prominence with a large family circle found his judgment and his purposes drawn by numerous strong cords of influence which the childless or the isolated would not have felt. The enthusiasm of youth committed itself, heart and soul, to a cause that graybeards sadly wagged their heads over, and often made their own only with reluctance.

Lee was as far as possible removed from being a secessionist in theory. He was a slaveholder, and looked upon the anti-slavery movement as an aggression and unjustifiable; but he did not regard secession as either the practical or lawful remedy. He wrote to his son in January, 1861:

"Secession is nothing but revolution. The framers of our Constitution never exhausted so much labor, wisdom, and forbearance in its formation, and surrounded it with so many guards and securities, if it was intended to be broken by every member of the Confederacy at will. It is intended for 'perpetual union,' so expressed in the preamble, and for the establishment of a government, not a compact, which can only be dissolved by revolution, or the consent of all the people in convention assembled."

Still, he added that if the revolution should come and the Union be in fact disrupted, "I shall return to my native State and share the miseries of my people, and, save in defence, will draw my sword on none."

At the time he wrote this letter he was on military duty in Texas, where for the most of the preceding year he was in command of the Department; Gen. Twiggs, the Commandant, being off duty by reason of ill health. There, Lee used the same language to his friends, as we learn from the conclusive testimony of Charles Anderson, brother of Gen. Robert Anderson and afterwards Governor of Ohio. Col. Anderson has published his reminiscences of the events attending the pretended secession of Texas, in a pamphlet entitled 'Texas Before and on the Eve of Rebellion.' He was a personal friend and sincere admirer of Lee, and received as much of his confidence as any one was likely to receive in such a time from a man who was struggling with the terrible problem of duty in such a case, and who was by nature one whose "grave, cold dignity of bearing, and the prudential reserve of whose manners, rather chilled over-early or over-much intimacy." He gives us as the substance of Lee's statements to him the following: "If Virginia stands by the old Union, so will I. But if she secedes (though I do not believe in secession as a constitutional right, nor that there is a sufficient cause for a revolution), then I will still follow my native State, with my sword, and if need be with my life."

No sooner was Lincoln elected than Gen. Twiggs, although in no better health than during the year before, resumed command. This was on the 27th of November, 1860, and it seems clear that it was done by direction of Floyd, then Secretary of War, a Virginian of different fibre from Robert E. Lee, and who was quite capable of conspiring with Twiggs and with the secession element of Texas to surrender the troops and the property of the United States, of which they both were officers. Lee could not be used for such a purpose. The surrender was finally made, as Anderson informs us, not to the State authorities of Texas, but to a committee appointed by the Knights of the Golden Circle, who were then conspiring to revolutionize the State against Sam. Houston, the Governor, who was too much of a Union man for them. These gentry even informed Col. Lee "that, unless he would then and there engage to resign his commission in the United States Army, and to take one under the Confederate authority, he should not have transportation for his effects (which were bulky and valuable) to the coast." This Lee himself told to Anderson "in greatest agitation of indignation." He scornfully rejected such terms, and left his personal property behind him, requesting Anderson to try to have it forwarded after him at his private cost.

Lee reached Arlington, on his return from Texas, some time in March, 1861, and was registered in the Adjutant-General's office as on leave, awaiting orders. He seems to have avoided society, and even to have held aloof from Gen. Scott. He was painfully awaiting the effect the Southern revolution might have upon Virginia, and reflecting upon the difficult task of deciding his own course. The most authentic account of his interview with Scott (for there seems to have been but one) is given by Gen. E. D. Townsend in his 'Anecdotes of the Civil War.' Gen. Townsend was then upon Scott's staff, and says that on the 18th of April the General asked if he had seen Lee lately, adding, "It is time he should show his hand, and, if he remains loyal, should take an important command." Townsend wrote a note to Lee intimating Scott's wish to see him at headquarters, and on the 19th Lee called. By Scott's desire, Townsend, who was at a desk in the same room, remained and was witness to the conversation. Scott urged the duty laid upon all to declare their position, and his opinion of the fatal mistake made by those who resigned from the army to take part with the seceding States. To repeated forms of putting this, Lee made no reply, and Scott, naturally interpreting the silence as proof of an unfavorable purpose, said, probably with some asperity, "I suppose you will go with the rest. If you purpose to resign, it is proper you should do so at once; your present attitude is an equivocal one." Lee then responded, "General, the property belonging to my children, all they possess, lies in Virginia. They will be ruined if they do not go with their State. I cannot raise my hand against my children." It is fair to interpret his silence as evidence of the severity of the internal struggle which had now come to a crisis, and not to a moody antagonism. There is no doubt that he deeply loved the Union, and that he regarded secession as unjustifiable revolution. In an agony of conflicting emotions, it was personal sympathies and feelings which most powerfully affected him, for he did not wish Virginia to secede, and had no political sympathy with those who were trying to force her to go with the South. It therefore most naturally took to his mind the concrete form of personal and family ties, binding him to a fate which he accepted, but could not affirmatively choose. It was not that he desired to go with the revolutionists, but that he could not fight against them, since this would involve raising his hand against his children.

The resignation which he wrote on the 20th of April refers to the interview as on the 18th (two days thus intervening), and says: "It would have been presented at once, but for the struggle it has cost me to separate myself from a service to which I have devoted the best years of my life and all the ability I possessed." He ended by saying, "Save in the defence of my native State, I never desire again to draw my sword." The mental process we have tried to portray appears in a letter to his sister, Mrs. Marshall of Baltimore, written on the same day with his resignation, and which is also quoted by Gen. Long. He says:

"The whole South is in a state of revolution into which Virginia, after a long struggle, has been drawn; and, though I recognize no necessity for this state of things, and would have forborne and pleaded to the end for redress of grievances, real or supposed, yet in my own person I had to meet the question whether I should take part against my native State. With all my devotion to the Union, and the feeling of loyalty and duty of an American citizen, I have not been able to make up my mind to raise my hand against my relatives, my children, my home. I have therefore resigned my commission in the army, and, save in defence of my native State, with the sincere hope that my poor services may never be needed, I hope I may never be called on to draw my sword."

On the 22d of April the Virginia Convention confirmed his appointment as "Commander-in-chief of the naval and military forces of this commonwealth," and the President of the Convention, fitting his words to what it may be presumed he knew of Lee's frame of mind, declared that "Virginia placed her sword in your hand upon the implied condition—which we know you will keep to the letter and in the spirit—that you will draw it only in defence." Lee, in his reply accepting the position, again reiterates, "I devote myself to the service of my native State, in whose behalf alone will I ever again draw my sword."

Lee's character and subsequent career cannot be thoroughly understood unless we take full account of all the opinions and feelings which have thus been described. He was not using words at a venture, but meant all he said. He saw a revolution going on, he scouted the idea of a right of peaceable secession, he intimated that the South was exercised over supposed as well as real grievances. He had not lost his love for the Union, he avowed his feelings of loyalty and duty as an American citizen. But Virginia had taken the fatal step, and he could not decide to raise his hand against his relatives, his children, and his home. He resigned, hoping, as he himself afterwards wrote, "that some way would be found to save the country from the calamities of war," and with "no other intention than to pass the remainder of my life as a private citizen."

But events were moving rapidly, and a few days brought the call to lead in the defence of Virginia as an independent commonwealth. The costly and painful first step had been taken, and this seemed to follow logically from the other. He accepted the call, as we have seen, with the express reservation that he would act only in defence. Another short period (it is hard to realize that it was but two or three days), and Virginia entered the Confederacy. Lee's position was now anomalous, and we can easily believe he sincerely hoped to solve it by a return to private life. He was at the head of the Virginia forces, under a Virginia commission, but Virginia's troops were put at the disposal of the Confederacy. He did not take the field. Johnston and Beauregard already held Confederate commissions, and were in command of the troops gathering at Manassas and in the Shenandoah valley. Lee confined his labors to the organization and equipment of Virginia regiments, and it was not till after the battle of Bull Run that he accepted the commission of General in the army of the Confederate States. The time may come when we shall know something of his mental struggles and experiences during those three months: at present we can only conjecture them. The fatal logic of events had fastened Virginia to the revolutionary policy her people never approved, and Lee's defence of home had, step by step, become the championship of the cause he had declared legally unconstitutional and practically unwise and unnecessary.

TIME REFERENCES IN THE DIVINA COMMEDIA.

The Time References in the Divina Commedia, and their bearing on the assumed date and du-

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ration of the Vision. By the Rev. Edward Moore, D.D., Principal of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, and Barlow Lecturer in University College, London. London: David Nutt. 1887. 16mo, pp. 134, with seven tables.

A FEW questions in literature are of perennial interest. Every generation will have its own library concerning the composition of the 'Iliad,' the allegory of the 'Divine Comedy,' the various readings of Shakspere's plays. The discussion of these problems is the more alluring and entertaining because there can be no hope of a solution of them that shall be final and universally satisfactory. Now and then some Wolf, Grote, Witte, or Coleridge brings such learning or imagination to bear upon the interpretation as to clear away many a difficulty, while he still leaves many unexplained. But, besides these main questions, there are subordinate ones, offering, very likely, a wide field for difference of opinion, but which well-applied industry and careful investigation may hope to solve. Their solution depends not so much upon keenness of literary insight and delicacy of literary perception, as on thorough examination of the text and intelligent inquiry into its significance. The little volume which Dr. Moore has just published, on the 'Time References in the Divina Commedia,' is an excellent example of good work in elucidating a matter on which great difference of opinion has existed, and yet about which a correct conclusion is of considerable importance for the proper understanding of the scheme of Dante's journey in the spiritual realms.

The question divides itself in two; the first relating to the date of the journey, the second to the time which it occupied. It is certain that there was no lack of clearness or definiteness in regard to these points in Dante's own mind, and certain, also, that his narrative is so consistent throughout that a positive conclusion in respect to them is to be arrived at, provided his statements concerning them be properly interpreted. These statements, however, are not only very numerous, but are often very obscure and susceptible of more than one interpretation. The mentions of time in the course of the journey refer sometimes to the position of the sun, sometimes to that of the moon, and the interpretation of the latter depends, of course, on the year in which the Vision took place and on the day of the month on which it is assumed to have begun. The turning-point of the discussion is therefore in respect to this year and to the day.

The evidence, both direct and collateral, that the year of the Vision was 1300, is convincing. The time of year was about the spring equinox (Inf. i, 38-40); the actual day on which the poet entered the Inferno was Good Friday (xxi, 112). It was on the morning of this day that, after a night passed in the dark wood, during which the light of the full moon had sometimes been of service to him (xx, 127), he undertook the ascent of the hill whose shoulders were touched by the rays of the rising sun (i., 16). Brief as is his account of his attempt to ascend it, this occupied many hours, so that not till late in the day, having retreated to the base of the hill and abandoned his undertaking, was he met by Virgil and encouraged by him to follow him as his guide through "the eternal place." The day was going (ii, 1) as the poets set out for the entrance of Hell. Dr. Moore bids the reader "observe in passing how significantly Dante enters the Inferno at nightfall, and both Purgatory and Paradise at daybreak, and, moreover, the earthly paradise as well."

The day, as we have said, was Good Friday. But did Dante intend the ideal Good Friday—that is, the 25th of March, which, according to a widespread belief, was the actual day of the crucifixion, as well as the day of the creation, and, according to the Julian calendar, of the vernal equinox, or "did he follow ordinary custom and refer to Good Friday as generally observed, which would be, in fact, April 8, in the year 1300"? In case the former supposition be adopted, he must have falsely assumed the existence of a full moon on the evening of March 24; while in case we assume the latter supposition as correct, we find that, according to the calendar of 1300, the full moon fell on the evening before Good Friday, as Dante describes it as doing. In this year, however, the full moon by the calendar was two days later than the real full moon, and the new question arises whether Dante attended to the absolute fact, or to the commonly received statement and understanding of it. The answer to this question is, as might be expected of a poet writing for a popular audience, that "all his allusions are to be connectedly and consistently explained as referring" to the date of the *calendar* moon, and not to that of the *real* moon. "To have adopted," says Dr. Moore, "any other than a popular computation of familiar celestial phenomena would not only be poetically superfluous, but positively misleading." Yet many commentators have puzzled themselves and their readers by endeavoring to adapt Dante's references to the moon to its astronomically correct position, and have endeavored to interpret the poem as if it were intended to have the accuracy of a scientific treatise.

Assuming, then, that the poet adopted the actual Good Friday of 1300 as the date of the day on the evening of which he entered Hell, and that he followed the calendar in its date for the full moon, we may reasonably assume further that Dante would find it sufficient for such exactness as was required by his poem to calculate, in a rough and popular way, the retardation of the moon behind the sun at about fifty minutes for each complete day. "Further, we should not be many minutes wrong if, at a distance of about twenty days from the calendar equinox, we assumed sunrise to be about 5:15 A. M., and sunset about 6:45 P. M." Taking for granted these various assumptions, we proceed, following Dr. Moore, to see how the principal time references of the poem agree with this scheme; and since it is impossible, within the limits of our space, to set forth his argument at length, we condense its results in the following table for the benefit of students of the poem who may not have access to Dr. Moore's essay:

INFERNO.

I., 16, 37. "The time was the beginning of the morning" (37). Sunrise, Good Friday, April 8.

II., 1. "The day was going," as the poets approach the entrance of Hell.

VII., 98. "Already every star is sinking." Past midnight, as Dante and Virgil leave the fourth circle.

XI., 113. "The Fishes are quivering upon the horizon." The constellation of the Pisces is setting, about 4 to 5 A. M., Saturday, April 9, as the poets descend from the sixth to the seventh circle.

XX., 125. The moon is setting, past 6 A. M., as they are leaving the fourth bolgia of the eighth circle.

XXI., 112. 7 A. M., in the fifth bolgia.

XXIX., 10. "Now the moon is beneath our feet." About 1 P. M. The poets are leaving the ninth bolgia. Dante "avoids all mention of the sun during his passage through the Inferno," and describes the hour by referring to the position of "the face of the lady who rules here" (x., 80)—that is, Hecate, who in Heaven is Luna.

XXXIV., 68. "But the night is reascending," as the poets depart from Hell, at the beginning of the night of Saturday.

XXXIV., 96. "And now the sun returns to middle tierce"—that is, about half-past 7 A. M. "This rapid change of twelve hours is due to the passage through the centre of the earth, as explained by Virgil in lines 106-118." The time, by change of hemisphere, has been put back twelve hours, so that it is now again the morning of Saturday. The reference to the sun indicates that Hell has been left.

XXXIV., 139. "Thence we came forth to rebehold the stars." The passage from the centre of the earth to its surface at the Mount of Purgatory has occupied (in brief narrative) the whole of the new Saturday and the night following. It is now early in the morning, before dawn, of Easter Sunday, April 10.

PURGATORIO.

I., 19-21. "The fair planet that to love incites, was making the whole orient to smile." Dawn, Easter Sunday, as the poets arrive at the shore of Purgatory.

II., 1. Sunrise. "Now had the sun reached the horizon," as the boat with the celestial pilot appears.

II., 55. "On every side the sun was darting forth the day," when the poets are addressed by the new comers.

III., 16. "The sun was flaming red," as Dante and Virgil approach the foot of the mountain.

IV., 15. "Full fifty degrees the sun had risen." 8:45 to 9 A. M., as they enter the upward path.

IV., 137-8. "The meridian is touched by the sun," as the poets go on through the Ante-Purgatory.

VII., 43, 85. "The day declines"; "the lessening sun seeks his nest." Still are the poets in the Ante-Purgatory.

VIII., 1. Twilight, in the Valley of the Kings.

VIII., 49. "The air was darkening." The end of the first day, Easter Sunday, in the Valley.

IX., 1-12. Moonrise, between 8:30 and 9 P. M. Falling asleep of Dante on the grass.

IX., 13. Early dawn of Easter Monday. Vision of the eagle.

IX., 44. "The sun more than two hours high," about 7:30 A. M. The poets at the door of Purgatory.

X., 14. Moonset, during the passage of the poets through the rocky pass from the gate of Purgatory to the first ledge.

XII., 81. Just past midday. "The sixth handmaid of the day returns from service," as the poets are leaving the first ledge—that where Pride is punished.

XV., 1. Past three o'clock P. M., as they pass from the second cornice, where Envy is purged away, to the third, which is that of Anger.

XV., 141. The sun is getting low: as they enter the bitter smoke of this ledge.

XVII., 9. The sun "was now setting" as they pass out of the smoke, and the stars "are appearing on many sides" (72) as they go up to the fourth ledge, where Sloth is punished.

XVIII., 76. "The moon, almost to midnight late," as a band of the slothful hurry by the poets, and, when they have passed, Dante falls asleep.

XIX., 1-6. Description of the hour before dawn of a new day—Tuesday, April 12—in which Dante has a vision of the Siren.

XIX., 37-39. "Full already of high day were all the circles of the sacred mountain" as the poets approach the entrance to the fifth ledge, where Avarice and Prodigality are punished. "Observe," says Dr. Moore, "the admirable fitness with which D. times his progress so that the time spent in the *Cornice* where *Accidia* or Spiritual Sloth is punished, is exactly coincident with the hours of night—'the night when no man can work.'"

XXII., 118. The fifth handmaiden of the day "was at the pole," guiding the car of day as

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Dante and Virgil are passing along the sixth cornice, that of Gluttony.

XXV., 1-3. About two o'clock indicated by the position of the sun, when the poets ascend the narrow stairway by which they pass to the seventh ledge, or that of Lust.

XXVI., 4-6. The sun is getting low as they proceed along this ledge.

XXVII., 1-5. "The day was going"; 63. "The sun departs and the evening comes"; 70-72, the darkness gradually closes in; 89-90, the stars were shining bright, as Tuesday, April 12, the third day spent in Purgatory ends, and, the poets having attained to its summit, Dante falls asleep and has the vision of Leah. 109. The dawn of the next day, and (112) "now the darkness fled away on every side," and the sun shines upon Dante's forehead (133) as he enters the Earthly Paradise.

XXXIII., 104. "The sun was holding the meridian circle" when Dante is led by Matilda to drink of the waters of Eunoë, restored by which he is "Pure and disposed to mount unto the stars." This was at noon of Wednesday.

PARADISO.

The Paradiso affords no such indications of time as are given in the Inferno and the Purgatorio, for in Paradise the poet has passed from time to eternity, and to a realm where there is no need of the dividing light of sun or moon, for there is no night there. Dante, however, in vv. 37-45 of the first canto of the Paradiso, indicates the earthly morning as the time when he entered Paradise; and if *mane*, the morning, is to be taken here in its natural sense, the interval from the noon of Wednesday to the morning of Thursday is not accounted for, and the imagination of the reader must fill it as best it can.

Two passages in the Paradiso, canto xxii, 151-153, and canto xxvii, 79-87, suggest the passage of time on earth during the poet's vision of Paradise, but the indications they give are vague; it is difficult, if not impossible, to draw from them a precise reference to time, and, so far as they admit of a literal interpretation, it is, as Dr. Moore says, "rather local than temporal." The whole situation is purely ideal. But Dr. Moore is inclined to infer from these passages that the stay in Paradise occupied a single earthly day, and that Dante found himself on earth again on the evening of Thursday, April 14; the Vision having thus occupied precisely seven days. "The completeness and propriety of such a period would not fail to strike one so constantly impressed by the mystic significance of numbers."

Such, in brief, are the main conclusions of Dr. Moore's treatise. They are supported throughout by keen and discriminating argument, and they afford a consistent and, in the main, a satisfactory solution of the many difficult problems presented by the subject in its various aspects. Many points of interest, more or less closely connected with the chief topic, are incidentally touched upon in the discussion, and, whether all its conclusions be accepted or not, the student will find the little volume of great service for the understanding of the poem.

AN ORIENTAL STORY-BOOK.

The History of the Forty Vezirs, or the Story of the Forty Morns and Eves. Written in Turkish by Sheykh-Zāda. Done into English by E. J. W. Gibb, M.R.A.S. London: Redway; New York: Scribner & Welford. Post 8vo, pp. 450.

THERE is a fashion in literature, as in other things, and just now the fashion seems to be for popular tales of all descriptions. The four quarters of the globe are ransacked for nursery tales, which the learned laboriously comment and the public read for all that. Undoubtedly many of these tales are worthy of a place in more permanent literature, and, even when stripped of their pseudo-mythological or "survival-of-savagery" character, constitute no uninteresting branch of study. Still, there is danger of overstocking the market, and risk of wearying the mind of the reader with interminable variations of familiar themes. There are, however, certain great cycles of stories which are not only interesting in themselves, but valuable for the history of culture. Besides, they afford an unusually fascinating field for the student of comparative literature, because, belonging to the class of written literature, their diffusion can be traced with much greater accuracy than is possible in the case of stories handed down by oral tradition alone. In the latter case we can simply say that such and such tales are found in such and such countries, but how or when they came there is a question that would puzzle anybody but Prof. Max Müller or Mr. Andrew Lang. In the former case we have exact, or approximately exact, data in the shape of translations, by which the stories in question were diffused within historical times from one land to another. It is to this class of works, and to one of the most interesting of the class, that Mr. Gibb's translation of 'The History of the Forty Vezirs' belongs.

The Oriental estimate of woman has never been a high one, and probably found its justification in the results of the systematic ignorance and seclusion in which women were kept. Stories of woman's craft have always been popular in the East, and the idea of connecting a number of such stories by means of another tale employed as a frame is peculiarly Oriental. In the work of which we are about to speak, a king loses his wife and intrusts his son, the issue of the marriage, to a wise man or number of wise men to be instructed. The father meanwhile marries again, and the son is sent home to his father by the master, who first casts the son's horoscope and warns him of an approaching danger from which he can escape only by remaining silent a certain length of time. The king is disconsolate at finding his son a mute, as he supposes, and turns him over to the stepmother to try her art in making him speak. She falls in love with the youth, and, on his repelling her advances, accuses him to his father of an attempt upon her virtue. The king condemns his son to death, but, as the latter is led out to execution, one of the masters (or one of the king's ministers) begs for a delay, and narrates a story to prove the craft of woman and the inexpedience of killing the prince upon the queen's testimony alone. The queen in turn tells a story to show the danger of allowing the youth to live. Such is a brief outline of a story book of which Görres ('Die teutschen Volksbücher,' p. 154) says: "It sprang originally from the Indian mountains, whence from primeval days it took its course as a little brook, and flowed ever more westerly through Asia's wide fields. And, while it made its way for thousands of years through space and time, swelling wider and wider in reaching us, out of it whole generations and many nations have drunk; and, having passed to Europe with the great migrations, it has now also in our day and generation obtained such a wide circle of readers, that, in regard to its celebrity and the magnitude of its sphere of influence, it reaches the Scriptures, and surpasses all classical works."

The work in its simplest form is known as the 'History of the Seven Sages,' or 'Book of the Seven Wise Masters,' and contains, besides introduction and conclusion, fourteen stories, one by each of the masters and seven by the queen. In some versions the queen relates but six, and the prince the concluding one; in others the masters relate more than one story each. Of Indian origin, the book was brought to Persia and translated into Pahlavī; from Pahlavī into Arabic about the middle of the eighth century; from Arabic it was translated into Syriac, Old Spanish, and Hebrew; and from Syriac into Greek. There are also Persian versions, the genealogy of which is not so clear. In the course of time, as was the case with the 'Arabian Nights,' the frame was preserved with more or less care, while the stories varied in the different versions; so that some fifty-four stories are now to be found in place of the original fourteen.

In all of the Oriental versions (and the European ones based upon them), with three exceptions, the number of masters or vezirs is seven. These three exceptions are: the Turkish romance of the 'Forty Vezirs,' the Persian 'Bakhtyār Nāma' or 'Ten Vezirs,' and the Hindu 'Alakeswara Katha,' in which there are four ministers. The last-named version has not been translated. The second, it may be interesting to American readers to know, was translated into English by "A Citizen of Philadelphia" in 1813 (a MS. note on the title-page of the copy in the possession of the reviewer states that the translator was Dr. Charles Caldwell). The third has been partly translated into French and entirely into German, and, from the incomplete French version, into English under the title of 'Turkish Tales' (1708, not 1809 as Mr. Gibb states). This latter version is now happily replaced by Mr. Gibb's scholarly work, which not only presents the original in its entirety, but also gives a number of additional stories from MS. sources, thus furnishing an indispensable companion-volume to Dr. W. F. A. Bernhauer's excellent German version, 'Die vierzig Veziere' (Leipzig, 1851).

The Turkish version, as the title indicates, differs from the other Oriental ones in the number of the king's ministers who relate stories to postpone the prince's execution, each relating one, and the queen forty, making eighty in all, besides the introduction and conclusion. A more important difference is found in the stories themselves, which, with few exceptions, are entirely new; two only, Nos. 3 and 59, being found in other Oriental versions of the 'Seven Wise Masters,' and two, Nos. 11 and 29, in the Occidental ones. Many of the remaining stories are familiar, being found in the great collections of Oriental tales; many, too, are taken from the Jewish and Mohammedan mythologies. Some, however, are peculiar to this collection, and are not found, to the reviewer's knowledge, in any other. One, with a moral, is about a king's son who could not learn his lessons because his mind was ever on a shop in a bazaar where hung many lamps, and the lad thought only of how many he could break at one blow with his stick. The king at last gave him a stick and sent him to the shop to break as many lamps as he could, offering to pay for all the damage done. The prince dealt his blow, satisfied his longing, and returned to his lessons. In our modern world the lamps, we take it, which must be broken, are foot-ball, etc., and the king's conduct may be commended to college presidents. Even the familiar stories contained in the book have something novel about them, as in the version of "The Matron of Ephesus" (the sixth Vezir's story), etc. We have not the space to mention even briefly the new and interesting stories of this version, many of which will be very acceptable to the student of comparative literature. Several tales Mr. Gibb has left untranslated; some others are too free to warrant placing the book in the hands of young people. Of the work of the translator it is possible to speak in terms of the highest praise. His English is racy and idiomatic, and yet adapts itself well to the Oriental fancy of the original. He has performed his task in the most scholarly manner, and earned the gratitude

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not only of the general reader, but also of the student to whom the original would be a sealed book, and who has here in a perfectly trustworthy translation a most valuable addition to his stock of Oriental tales. It is to be hoped that Mr. Gibb will continue his labors in this field, and give us a translation of other Turkish stories, notably the jest-book of the famous Nasr-eddin.

The English and Scottish Popular Ballads. Edited by Francis James Child. Part IV. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

ONE-HALF of this great work has now been completed with the conclusion of this part. In it are included thirty-one ballads with their introductions and variations, and about twenty pages of additions and corrections. In purely literary quality the pieces in this part, we are disposed to say, are on the whole inferior to those contained in any one of the three preceding. But if the literary interest is inferior by comparison, there has been no falling-off in the character and extent of the editorial work. The same exhaustive study has been placed upon a ballad of slightest importance as would have been given to one the literary value of which has recommended it to the favor of successive generations. Some idea of the extraordinary thoroughness with which the work has been done, as well as of the labor required to do it, may be gathered from one or two illustrations. Of the ballad of "Lamkin" there are twenty-two distinct versions given; of that of "Johnie Scot" there are sixteen. This, moreover, does not include certain verbal variations which are duly recorded.

Such facts as these, however, represent the labor rather than the learning and ability displayed in the carrying out of this great undertaking. The latter is something that can only be appreciated fully by the specialist. Still, the value of this collection is made distinctly higher to every student by the unhesitating manner in which Prof. Child pays his respects to the alterations and additions with which the words of the simple old ballads have been disguised or overlaid. For in investigations of this kind it is not merely the possession of greater knowledge that comes into play—in that respect the present editor has admittedly no equal. Far more important for that particular purpose are the correctness of judgment and the keenness of insight which enable him at once to detect the difference between the spurious and the genuine. Against literary emendations of traditional ballads the editor has all the hostility of the scholar, and all the aversion of the man of taste to the "sentiments of transcendent elegance," as he somewhere expresses it, with which the originals are apt to be decorated. For the sake of completeness he gives, for instance, in an appendix a version of "Young Waters," as contained in the collection of Buchan, an editor who, he tells us, can generally be relied upon to produce a longer ballad than any one else; but he characteristically adds that it is printed for much the same reason that thieves are photographed.

It is curious to see in these old ballads the recurrence in past ages of the feelings that are prevalent to-day. Of the many illustrations that might be given, one is perhaps worthy of special mention now. Those who spend any time in the examination of the stories that find a wide and almost exclusive circulation among the working classes, can hardly have failed to be struck by the frequency with which the interest of the plot turns upon the inequality of position that prevails between the lovers in the tale. In them the hero and heroine fall in love and marry, not in their own station, but above it or below it. A similar way of looking at life appears in these old ballads, and bears witness to the uniformity with which, in all periods and under all forms of expression, the sentiments of men repeat themselves. For higher literary effect it is noticeable that only one of these two conditions is tolerated. "No offence seems to be given," writes Prof. Child, "when King Cophetua weds the Beggar-Maid, but when the Lady of the Strachey marries the Yeoman of the Wardrobe good taste is shocked." It may be that something more than taste has been affected, that a deeper note has been touched which records unconsciously the accumulated wisdom of the race. It may be that this literary aversion to one of these two conditions is, after all, due to the fact that the experience of mankind has shown that, while the superior husband often elevates the inferior wife, the inferior husband is almost sure to drag down to his level the superior wife.

As time advances, the merits of this great collection are coming more and more to be known and recognized. Unless new sources of traditional ballad literature are brought to light—which is not a thing to be expected and hardly to be imagined—the present work will remain for all time the final one upon the subject. It is hardly necessary to say to those familiar with the preceding parts that this, like them, is printed in accordance with its value, and that its appearance does the fullest credit to a publishing-house which has long been honorably distinguished for the excellence of the typographical execution displayed in its publications.

A History of the Papacy during the Period of the Reformation. By M. Creighton, M. A. Vols. III and IV. London: Longmans; Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1887.

DR. CREIGHTON'S third and fourth volumes carry the work down to the point at which histories of the Reformation used to begin, to the year 1517. We are indebted to him for bringing clearly home to English readers the consciousness that what we call the Reformation is not the work of Martin Luther and his followers, but the resultant of a great complex of forces, social, political, intellectual, commercial, and religious. It is the gathering of these forces which forms the background of the four volumes before us. We say "the background," because Dr. Creighton never forgets that he is writing the history of a single institution which must necessarily occupy the foreground of his picture. In a way, this has been a misfortune for the author. Perhaps it would not have been possible for him to select any one point of view from which the whole field of human progress during the Reformation time could be so well surveyed as the point of view of Rome. At the same time, it is clear that the papacy was either in opposition to the most fruitful tendencies of the day or else was swept along by them. Its fatal defect was that it neither originated nor directed them. In telling the story of the papacy, therefore, one is forced constantly to leave the really great currents of human development and turn aside into what is, after all, a by-path.

In the first two volumes Dr. Creighton dealt with the great conciliar movement of the fifteenth century, which at one time seemed likely to drive the papacy out of existence. As compared with that great movement—the expression of the right of Christian Europe to settle its own church problems in its own way—the attitude of the papacy seems petty and trivial to the point of contempt; and its victory at Constance and Basel was not the triumph of real power, but the supremacy of mere inertia over a factious and disunited opposition. In the second two volumes the papacy is again shown in its relation to a great European movement, the triumphant humanism of the third generation. This time it does not oppose, but lets itself be quietly drawn into the movement of the intellect on its secular side, without a thought of what must be the consequence to its own highest interests. Once more it is not the papacy, but a process inevitably hostile to it, which claims our chief attention. It is not Rome, but Florence, which is the real centre of the Italian intellect. The splendid displays of Nicholas V. and his successors were only a varnish of modern ideas on a culture essentially mediæval still. Again the story of the papacy is one of vulgar intrigue for landed possession, for the building up of a papal state, for the settlement in life of sacerdotal bastards.

Dr. Creighton has gone into the sources of all this unedifying story with great diligence and tells it with great fairness. He follows the personal fortunes of each Pope with entire accuracy, and yet one can almost feel the sense of relief with which he turns to such an episode as that of Savonarola, or the work of Michel Angelo, or the expedition of Charles VIII., as a part of the greater life of the day in which the papacy as such could not share. With the method of the author we have before now expressed our satisfaction. It is the method of a man working with the best tools of modern scholarship, and with a steady purpose to keep in view the true historical meaning of events. It is not his mission to abuse the institution he is describing, but to show it as it was. The indictment against the papacy becomes all the more convincing from this very absence of passion in the historian. One feels that the author has not, like his chief modern opponent, Janssen, a thesis to prove, but that one is to be left to draw one's own conclusions from a calm statement of well-proved facts.

The appendices at the close of each volume give valuable information as to sources, and discuss several important controversies with scholarly thoroughness. The world of scholars will look forward with great interest to the appearance of future volumes, which shall deal with the Reformation in its stricter sense.

Römische Ikonographie, II. Die Bildnisse der römischen Kaiser: Erster theil, Das Julisch-Claudische Kaiserhaus. Von J. J. Bernoulli. 8vo, pp. xiv and 438; with thirty-five plates and fifty-nine illustrations in text. Berlin and Stuttgart. 1886.

BERNOULLI'S 'Ikonographie,' the second volume of which has recently appeared, treats of an important subject in such a thorough and masterly manner that it deserves to be widely known among our classical teachers and others interested in Roman portraiture. The care with which it is compiled, and the completeness of its illustrations, give the book a place among the classics of archæology; and while there may be differences of opinion as to individual questions with which it deals, there can be little doubt that it will remain for many years the standard authority on its subject. Bernoulli's 'Aphrodite' (Leipzig, 1873) showed that he possessed the patience which characterizes the work of the best German scholars; and as the same quality distinguishes the present book in a preëminent degree, it is hardly probable that anybody will attempt to improve upon it until the material bearing upon the subject is very largely increased. The sumptuous publication of E. Q. Visconti, completed by Mongez ('Iconographie Grecque,' 3 vols. folio, Paris, 1811, and 'Iconographie Romaine,' 4 vols. folio, 1817-26) was, as Bernoulli says, epoch-making; but the rapid accumulation of iconographic monuments during the last sixty years, the increase in the facilities for studying and comparing them, and, more than all, the development in the methods of archæological investigation during this period, have amply justified Dr. Ber-

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noulli in undertaking this heroic task Of his success thus far we can only say that the second volume quite fulfils the expectations raised by the first ('Bildnisse berühmter Römer,' Stuttgart, 1882). In the care and thoroughness with which he has searched every nook and corner for material, he satisfies Carlyle's definition of genius.

The second volume treats of the five emperors of the Julian-Claudian house, and those members of their families of whom portraits survive. Julius Cæsar having been included among the "famous Romans" of the first volume, the present one begins with Augustus, and we can most easily give our readers an idea of the plan of the work by describing this chapter. It opens with a list of thirty-four of the principal events in the life of Augustus, with their dates, as a help in fixing the dates of the portraits examined later. Then follows a summary of the descriptions of his person and character, from the accounts of Suetonius, Tacitus, and other writers of the time; and with these are compared the heads which inscriptions establish beyond doubt as portraits. Of these the most important are the coin-types, because they are contemporaneous, and, though often of little artistic merit, they give at least the general character and shape of the head and features, thus serving as a basis in testing the authenticity of larger uninscribed monuments. Next comes an enumeration of the portraits mentioned in ancient authors and inscriptions, which is of great value to the historical student. Of these Bernoulli has collected thirty-one allusions to specific works, besides such general statements as that of the seventy silver statues of himself which Augustus melted down for the benefit of his temple of the Palatine Apollo. The most important section is that which follows—a list of the extant portraits of Augustus. Only those who have attempted to construct a list of this kind can form any conception of the amount of energetic labor and patience required to make it satisfactorily complete. It comprises ninety-seven statues and busts, thirty-eight gems, six reliefs, one wall-painting, and one bronze seal—a collection of one hundred and forty-three monuments in all. This, of course, includes not only those the authenticity of which has been doubted, but others which Bernoulli believes to be Augustus, though they are generally known under other names. Finally, these portraits are compared and classified—in the case of Augustus, according to the age at which he is represented—and their merits and claims are critically discussed. Bernoulli agrees, by the way, with those who have preceded him in considering the famous statue from Prima Porta, now in the Braccio Nuovo of the Vatican, as the finest of all the extant portraits of Augustus.

As would be expected, the material relating to the other Cæsars is less abundant, yet the author has collected fifty-eight statues and busts of Tiberius, twenty-three of Caligula, thirty-six of Claudius, and forty two of Nero; and numerous gems and other representations of each of them. Of the other members of the house Livia, Drusus, Antonia, Germanicus, and the Agrippinas are treated at length, and in all cases it is evident that the investigations have been limited only by the amount of material it was possible to collect.

But the merit of the book does not end with the collection and assortment of materials. The same care that characterizes this feature of it is equally manifest in the critical examination of the real and supposed portraits. It is too often a fault with German works of this class that their merits cease with their compilations of facts, and the student is either left to draw his own deductions from these, or is given a summary in which the bending of facts to fit preconceived opinions is unhappily apparent. Bernoulli's book is open to neither of these objections. Every monument receives its due amount of attention, and, where the author differs from commonly accepted theories, his arguments are stated in a simple and forcible manner, which, if it does not always convince, carries great weight. This is especially notable in his discussion (p. 381) of the so-called Agrippina, the sitting statue in Naples, which he unhesitatingly repudiates as a portrait of that empress. As is well known, this statue received its appellation from Visconti and Mongez, who identified it by comparison with certain of her coins. Bernoulli asserts that in this instance the testimony of coins amounts to nothing, because of the discrepancy in their representations of her, which he illustrates on plate xxxv, Nos. 1-6. He also maintains that there is no distinctive resemblance to the statue of Agrippina in the Lateran, identified by an inscription, and also that the statue is that of a woman much older than Agrippina, who was not more than forty-four years of age when she died. He therefore relegates it to the position now occupied by many a formerly "imperial" portrait, and labels it "Sitzende Matronenstatue" (pl. xxii). It is also interesting to note that he does not follow R. S. Poole in considering the beautiful "Klytie" bust in the British Museum as a portrait of Antonia, the daughter of Marcus Antonius, but thinks it more likely to have been some famous beauty of the imperial epoch—not, however, of the imperial family.

The illustrations form an important feature of the book. The thirty-five plates are in heliotype, which is well adapted for rendering the texture of the originals, and has the advantage of a mechanical process in that it transcribes facts much more exactly than a draughtsman can—a matter of the utmost importance in the identification of portrait-busts, as those who have had to depend upon Visconti's book are well aware. To the plates, however, the text illustrations are decidedly inferior. These are from drawings, mostly of a very sketchy character, and lack the absolute accuracy alluded to above, which is a chief essential where the object of the illustrations is to bring out minor points of difference in a number of portraits of the same individual.

Sne [Snow]. By Alexander Kjelland. Copenhagen. 1886.

In the literary arena Norway takes the prize in the race between Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. For the Christmas trade Ibsen wrote a play, "Rosmerholm," Lie a story, 'The Commander's Daughters,' and Garborg a story. After a silence of two years, Kjelland, the youngest of the four great prophets in the present literature of Norway, appears in two works, the story, 'Snow,' and a drama, "Three Couples" (*Tre Par*). This was all the more surprising as it had been rumored that he had lost both inclination and ability for further production, and that his literary career was ended. No evidence of either appears in 'Snow.' We there find the same Kjelland as of old. He may have grown in breadth of view and in strength of style, but there is the same tendency, the same love of satire, and 'Snow' is simply a new chapter in the human comedy which he has undertaken to write. If it be true that Kjelland's earlier works have given offence in various quarters, 'Snow' will certainly not tend to reconcile the enemies he has made. Those who have failed to be amused by his clever satirical descriptions of aristocratic merchants and bureaucrats, and have found them one-sided and distorted, will be slow to admit that his delineation of a priest, the chief figure in 'Snow,' is true and justifiable. Besides, priests are usually privileged characters in society, and we seldom find them held up to ridicule in elegant literature. That an author now and then, perhaps himself a priest or preparing for the priesthood, has cracked a little joke at the expense of the priestly dignity, is not to be taken into account, since all readers understand it to be a joke. Kjelland does not write in jest. His Daniel Jürges is an eminent, highly respected priest, fit to be made bishop when a vacancy occurs, an excellent type of his class; and when Kjelland discusses him we realize that he has the whole clergy and not merely Daniel Jürges in view. And we know that Kjelland is not in love with the priests. He regards them as a link in the chain of office-holders who run the Government machine without being in sympathy with the people, and he makes ideal claims on Jürges that seem to us to transcend the limits of human nature. He marshals a mountain of sins of commission and omission, and is a most unmerciful judge. He lashes the priest directly in what he makes others say to him, and indirectly in what he lets him say and do himself. Throughout it is evident that Jürges has to bare his back for his brethren in office.

Jürges is drawn with life and power. As a young graduate, he was lionized in the society of the capital, and in due course of time he leads to the altar the belle of the city, and takes her with him to one of the small fishing towns in the northern part of Norway. He hopes to be of some help to the plain people there, but, after a few years, he abandons the place without having made any impression whatever. His next parish is larger, and consists mainly of well-to-do peasants, but he has no better luck there. He does not understand the art of associating with peasants, and they look upon him as a sort of hostile authority against whom it is necessary to be on one's guard. Then Jürges retires from the obscure life of a priest, and comes out more conspicuously to battle with the disbelief and sin of the age. He takes charge of the religious department of the leading paper in the capital. In this position he finds abundant employment for his knowledge and talents, and he soon becomes known throughout the kingdom. He has a son who is a petty edition of himself. The son becomes engaged to a beautiful and rich girl of the capital; but whereas his mother, transplanted to the northern fishing town, soon lost all independence before the authoritative, domineering egoism of her husband, Gabriele is a step higher in the scale of evolution, and has the courage to demand of her lover that he shall not enter the priesthood. Johannes, who looks up to his father as his ideal, feels sure that Gabriele will change her mind when she is introduced to him in his home. Johannes and Gabriele accordingly go to his father's house. Then comes the struggle between the two, Daniel Jürges and Gabriele, the representatives of two forces in the community—the old orthodoxy, on the one hand, and modern liberal thought, on the other. The Church conquers and draws the doubting youth represented by Johannes to itself, while Gabriele, who resolutely breaks her engagement and leaves the house, regains her freedom and independence, and thus escapes the slavery of Daniel's wife. This is the thread of the story, which is told with all the vivacity, skill, satire, and earnestness of which Kjelland is capable, and that is saying a great deal.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Allinson—Penrose. Philadelphia. 1681-1887. A History of Municipal Development. Philadelphia: Allen, Lane & Scott.

Anderson, Dr. J. History of the Soldiers' Monument in Waterbury, Conn. Printed for the Monument Committee.

Annual American Catalogue. 1886. Being the full titles, with descriptive notes, of all books recorded in the *Publishers' Weekly*, 1886, with author, title, and subject index. *Publishers' Weekly*.

Armytage, Dr. T. A History of the Baptists. Bryan, Taylor & Co.

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Arnold, H. P. Memoir of Jonathan Mason Warren, M. D. Printed for Private Distribution. Boston: 1886.
Bartholomew, J. Gazetteer of the British Isles, Statistical and Topographical. Scribner & Welford.
Beardsley, Dr. E. E. Life and Correspondence of Samuel Johnson, D.D., Missionary of the Church of England in Connecticut, and First President of King's College. Third ed. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $3.50.
Bercy, P. Livre des Enfants. W. R. Jenkins.
Butterworth, H. Ballads and Stories for Readings with Musical Accompaniments. Cincinnati: John Church Co.
Campbell, Helen. Prisoners of Poverty: Woman Wage Workers, their Trades and their Lives. Boston: Roberts Brothers. $1.
Cowdin, J. B. Elsie's Wedding, and Other Poems. 2d ed. Illustrated. Brooklyn: D. S. Holmes. $1.
Cox, Dr. S. The Bird's Nest, and Other Sermons for Children of all Ages. Thomas Whittaker. $1.50.
Diisterdieck, Dr. F. Handbook to the Revelation of John. Funk & Wagnalls.
Field, M. Brutus Ultor. Henry Holt & Co. 40 cents.
Fifty Standard Songs for Bass Voice. With Piano Accompaniment. Cincinnati: John Church Co.
Gunter, A. C. Mr. Barnes of New York: A Novel. Deshler, Welch & Co. 50 cents.
Hackner, Rev. W. Socialism and the Church; or, Henry George vs. Archbishop Corrigan. Catholic Publication Society Co.
Heron-Allen, E. Practical Chirosophy: A Synoptical Study of the Science of the Hand. Plates and Diagrams. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.
Ladd, Prof. G. T. Elements of Physiological Psychology. Charles Scribner's Sons. $4.50.
Littell's Living Age. Vol. 172. January-March, 1887. Boston: Littell & Co.
L'Œuvre de Victor Hugo: Extraits. Édition des Écoles. Paris: Hetzel-Quantin; New York: Christern.
Loomis, L. C. The Index Guide to Travel and Art Study in Europe. Illustrated. Charles Scribner's Sons. $3.50.
Lyall, Edna. Knight-Errant: A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.

Fine Arts.

THE ACADEMY EXHIBITION—I.

THE sixty-second annual exhibition of the Academy of Design is on all sides conceded to be nearly the best ever held in the history of the organization. It is not difficult to find the reason why, which is the exclusion of the numerous feeble works that have been so noticeable a component part of previous exhibitions. It cannot be set down as an exhibition distinguished by any considerable number of important works; on the contrary, there is a striking absence of such works. What pictures there are in the exhibition are well hung, and that fact goes a long way toward securing a favorable judgment for it. It gives a good all-around aspect, and makes the good canvases look their best and the mediocre ones unobtrusive. The members of the Hanging Committee, too, this year have not been unmindful of the valuable effect that may be obtained by suitable accessories, and have covered the upper part of the unsightly wooden walls with plush hangings, and in various ways have taken advantage of the aid of quiet decoration to set off the pictures.

The south gallery, the largest in the Academy building, and the one in which, from force of custom, we expect to find the most important pictures, is in this exhibition without a picture in what, from force of custom also, is considered the place of honor. There is no single picture in the centre of the south wall. Three or four small pictures are on the line at this point, and Mr. Freer's excellent "Portrait of a Lady" is placed in the middle over these. But this is not exactly the place of honor. Whatever may have been the reason why the Committee did not distinguish a single picture by giving it the coveted place in the centre of the line in the south gallery, it is a pity that there was not some one member of it able to carry the votes of the others with him and put Mr. Winslow Homer's "Undertow," No. 393, in that place. The picture deserves the honor. Though not remarkable for powerful drawing nor for any especially beautiful quality of color, this picture has a force about it, an air of truth, a fine sculpturesque quality of modelling, that puts it far beyond the ordinary well-done sort of work that we are bound to praise for its honesty, but which does not excite our enthusiasm. In this picture there is a breath of great art. Small though the canvas be, unconventional though real as the composition is, with its four figures in a row, and eccentric as is some of the drawing, this picture is tremendously effective. Were Mr. Homer a younger man and thoroughly trained in his art, as every painter must be as a matter of course to get to the highest rank, a wonderful future might be predicted for him. As it stands, sincere, honest searcher after truth as Mr. Homer is; poet, painter, and sturdy realist, at the same time, like Millet; distanced as he might be by a man of the same temperament but better equipped; faulty as his work is in some respects, we cannot but accord to Mr. Homer a very high homage. His "Undertow," by its virility, its truth, its sincerity of intention, outranks every picture in the Academy exhibition.

In the south gallery also is hung Mr. T. W. Dewing's "Days," No. 313. The picture is illustrative of Emerson's noble verses. That it is illustrative is the first point to be noted about it. That it is preëminently decorative rather than pictorial, as the word is generally understood, is the other important point. Here are four or five figures of women in clinging draperies, a man in the background to the left of the picture, a suggestion of something like a landscape, particularly prominent being a sort of wall-like arbor of leaves and flowers. The picture is by no means realistically treated. There is no attempt at out-door effect as it is understood by the followers of the modern school. The values are left to take care of themselves, local color is entirely subordinated to the effect of the ensemble, a color scheme is taken up and carried through without regard to truth and nature. There are no facts—there is only fancy. It is fancy, however, of the better sort. One has a wholesome contempt for those poets in paint who, having no control or mastery over the rudiments of art, yet strive to express a poetical idea, as it might be understood by a literary man, on canvas. There are many examples of such poets in paint in contemporary art, especially in England. Mr. Dewing has little in common with these. First and beyond everything his figures are drawn. They are tenderly painted. One feels an earnestness of intention in their execution, an honest desire to make them beautiful and truthful at the same time. It is the work of a man who knows his art. It is beautiful, indeed, in its sweet refinement, in its graceful delineation of type, in its harmonious whole. To judge it in two words, it is not a picture: it is an admirable decorative panel.

Looking at the Academy exhibition as a display of native art, and trying to draw conclusions as to its status therefrom, it is a difficult matter to place this work of Mr. Dewing. Had the painter remained in Paris, where he studied, and grounded himself thoroughly in the principles of painting (for Mr. Dewing was noted in the schools as a skilful draughtsman and able painter), it is more than probable that he would have given his best efforts to a realistic subject. In New York, as in London, there is a strong undercurrent of the literary idea in art. We have not yet, even as artists, got to the point of caring for a fine *morceau* rather than a fine idea. In hard words, after all, the best criticism of a picture of Christ on the Cross may be expressed in this wise, for instance: "The chest is luminous and well in relief, the arms are well drawn, the movement is good and the legs belong to the body; the head is well constructed." Apply this sort of criticism to the great pictures of the world and they will always bear it. There are brutal pictures of the Crucifixion and there are refined ones; but they must be good from the point of view of the soulless technician, or they will not live. It is not unjust to say that the predominance of the so-called "poetical idea" in art, which really means the literary idea, if carried very far, will kill good art. Realism in its best sense, as Rembrandt or Velasquez understood it and expressed it, must be adhered to and always kept in view. There can be no other foundation to build on, and those who search for something else will go astray. To return to our subject, though Mr. Dewing's canvas is not distinguished by such qualities as those we have named, it can be very highly esteemed as a piece of decoration, and as such it must be accorded a due meed of praise. Judged from the decorative point of view, it is excellent. "Days" is easily among the best things in the exhibition.

In judging of the excellence of an exhibition of pictures as well as the standing of the school of painters whom it represents, no better test can be found than portraits. Under such conditions as are forced upon American artists it is almost in portraits alone that an opportunity can be found to estimate their abilities as painters of the figure. Doctors always disagree, it is said, except they be the very best doctors, when they sink their small differences and find themselves in accord on essential points. The painters of portraits in the Academy, those worthy of mention at least, seem to come very near to agreeing as to how to paint a portrait, and to cite some of these amounts to a verdict of approval. Mr. F. P. Vinton's "Portrait of Theodore Chase," No. 227; Mr. J. Carroll Beckwith's "Portrait of a Gentleman," No. 403; Mr. W. M. J. Rice's portrait, No. 290, a full-length figure of a lady; Mr. Eastman Johnson's "Portrait of a Lady," No. 363; Mr. J. Alden Weir's portrait, No. 147, a child in a white dress in an interior; M. de Munkacsy's "Portrait of Doctor McCosh," No. 333, and "Portrait of Mr. Henry G. Marquand," No. 347; and Mr. F. W. Freer's "Portrait," No. 339, already mentioned, are all painted with a due regard for values, proper drawing, and an intention to depict the sitter on canvas in as lifelike and at the same time artistic way as possible. These are all good portraits. To discriminate, it may be said that of all of them Mr. Vinton's and Mr. Beckwith's portraits are the most lifelike and the best as regards drawing and construction; that Mr. Rice's is the most showy, but perhaps the least sincere; that Mr. Freer's is the best in color; that M. de Munkacsy's are the most perfunctory and at the same time the cleverest; and that Mr. Weir's, being a successful attempt to make a portrait and a picture at the same time, is the most charming. It has been many a long day since such a good lot has been seen on the Academy's walls. In Mr. Wyatt Eaton's "Man's Portrait," No. 429, there is less realism and a striking lack of harmony between the light on the head and hands and that on the clothes, but a fine sort of impression of character; in Miss Maria Brooks's "Portrait of Mr. E. L. K.," No. 386, there is a notable solidity of painting combined with a certain looseness of construction; in Miss Rosina Emmett's "Portrait," No. 437, a half-length seated figure of a lady, a considerable quality of color, but rather weak drawing; and in M. Paul Rajon's pastel, "Portrait of Mrs. K.," No. 5, a great deal of cleverness in the handling of the medium, and a pretty, though not very truthful, color scheme. Altogether the portraits are of the most interesting things in the exhibition. It is gratifying to see so goodly a display of them, to find so many that are good, and to see that the Hanging Committee has given them good places. It is certain that a portrait as a piece of painting is as interesting as any other sort of picture. True, these are not for sale, but are we not getting beyond the state in which an art exhibition is considered a market? No doubt we are, and the Academy jury this year is to be congratulated on having made a famous advance in the right direction.

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